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Nicholas Alexandrovich in the uniform of the Prussian 8th Hussar Regiment

A portrait of Tsesarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich, the future Emperor Nicholas II, is on display in Regensburg, Germany.

From 23 of June 2021 to 16 of January 2022, the Bavarian State Exhibition 2021 "Twilight of the Gods II - The Last Monarchs" will be on display at the Haus der Bayerischen Geschichte (House of Bavarian History) in Regensburg.

In the State Exhibition's poster, the decorative letter "G" frames the four protagonists of the exhibition: on the right, King Ludwig II, the fairy-tale King, with whose funeral the exhibition tour begins; on the left, slightly below him, the Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph; on the far left, the German Emperor Wilhelm II, who gave his name to an entire era. Finally, a woman, Elisabeth, called Sisi, Bavarian, Austrian Empress, today almost as famous as her great cousin Ludwig.

It shows the life's journeys of the last monarchs before the revolution of 1918.

Empress Elisabeth of Austria, the Bavarian King Ludwig III, Emperor Wilhelm II and the Russian Czar couple - they all fought for their place in a rapidly changing world. In the end, the First World War and revolution decided their fate.



The exhibition also has several artifacts, related to Romanov, including a bust of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna by Stefan Schwartz, 1894, and jewellery – a Fabergé brooch commemorating the 300th jubilee of the Romanovs, St. Petersburg, 1912.

One of the most interesting exhibits is a portrait of the "Heir, Tsesarevich and Grand Duke Nicholas Alexandrovich, the future Emperor Nicholas II", by Artist Ernst Friedrich von Liphart, 1889, oil on canvas.

The Sovereign is depicted in the uniform of the Prussian 8th Hussar Regiment, of which he has been the chief since 1889, as well as with the Royal Prussian Order of the Black Eagle.

However, looking at Nicholas Alexandrovich's face – with a beard - it looks more likely he is depicted as he appeared in 1893 or even later.

The painting hung from 1890(?) to 1995 in the former dining room of the palace in Neuhaus, directly opposite the portrait of Elector Clemens August of Bavaria. The officers of the 8th Hussar Regiment set up their own club for public meetings here and in the adjacent premises. The Prussian regiment was stationed at Neuhaus and Paderborn castle from 1851 to 1919. After the lost World War I, the regiment was disbanded.



After the exhibition, the portrait will be returned to the Residenz Museum in Neuhaus Castle.



The Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria burial-case continues

The Russian Orthodox Church postponed the date of the council, at which the remains of the Imperial Family were to be recognized

15 October - The Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church has postponed the meeting of Council of Bishops, at which it was planned to consider the issue of recognizing the remains of the Imperial Family found near Yekaterinburg.

According to the press service of the Moscow Patriarchate, the holding of the council was postponed to May 26-29, 2022 "due to the difficult epidemic situation." It was originally planned to be held from 15 to 18 November 2021.

"Also postponed are church-wide festive events on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the birth of Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia," the message says.

In September, the chairman of the Department for External Church Relations (DECR) of the Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, announced that the Bishops' Council, following an examination of the investigation, could make a decision and recognize the remains found in the Porosenkov Log near Yekaterinburg.



The Investigative Committee of Russia presents three volumes of the book "The Crime of the Century. Investigative materials"

In the end of September, the first volume of the Investigative Committee of Russia about the murder of the Imperial Family was released and volume 2 and 3 followed in October. This three-volume edition is a complete collection of materials from the investigation and historical documents related to the death of the Russian Emperor Nicholas II, his family and their entourage.

The book has aroused increased public interest and positive feedback, for it is the most accurate and complete source of information that has been put together literally piece by piece. The final part of the book is also filled with interesting facts, archives and documents. It provides answers to the questions posed at the beginning of the narrative, relying on purely scientific research, the results of expert examinations, photographs and audio recordings.

Thanks to the painstaking work carried out, modern high technologies, the investigation did not have any doubts about the version of the death of the Imperial Family and authenticity of the remains. The results of the investigation of this crime are internationally recognized.

The publication will be an essential help to all who are interested in establishing the truth of the tragic events of the past, because it is a joint effort of investigators, criminalists, scientists, historians and archivists, representatives of civil society and all non-indifferent people.

All volumes of the edition (in Russian) are available here - https://sledcom.ru/Proekty/isbookcrime1#section_1619839

Metropolitan Hilarion called the work of the Investigative Committee of Russia with the "Yekaterinburg remains" exhaustive

23 October. TASS - "The work of the Investigative Committee of Russia on the study of the "Yekaterinburg remains" belonging, presumably, to members of the executed Imperial Family of the Romanovs, is exhaustive. The Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church has already familiarized with the results", said the head of the department for external church relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Hilarion (Alfeyev).

"I think that the work [on the study of the 'Yekaterinburg remains'] was carried out very painstaking, very scrupulous, and, in fact, exhaustive. We only have to get acquainted with the results of this work and make an appropriate decision," the Metropolitan said on the TV channel Russia 24".

He recalled that the Investigative Committee of Russia has already released three volumes of materials that were collected during the study of the "Yekaterinburg remains."

"Unlike the first research done back in the 1990s, which was done in a hurry and the church was not allowed to approach, which caused suspicion and bewilderment in the church, the current research is exhaustive. More than 40 different tests, including genetic tests made in different laboratories, including those where no one knew what kind of bone tissue samples they were. And, in general, the conclusions made by the Investigative Committee are quite unambiguous.", - said the chairman of the department for external church relations of the Moscow Patriarchate.



The Russian Orthodox Church will appreciate the new edition of the Investigative Committee on the murder of the Tsar's Family



The first volume of the study of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation on the murder of the family of Tsar Nicholas II, in which the "Yekaterinburg remains" are recognized as tsarist ones, will be sent for familiarization to the bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church, said the secretary of the Patriarchal Commission for determining the authenticity of the remains found near Yekaterinburg, Metropolitan of Pskov and Porkhov Tikhon (Shevkunov).

"This book of examinations will be sent to all bishops," Metropolitan Tikhon said. At the same time, he did not comment on the content of this publication in any way, noting only that it contained data new for the Church.

Metropolitan Tikhon: "All the examinations are there; they are quite satisfying to me"

23 October, Daily Storm. By Anastasia Kashevarova

He is called the confessor of Vladimir Putin, a symbol of the increased influence of the Russian Orthodox Church on the internal politics of the state, it was predicted that he could be Patriarch, but he refuses everything and serves God. Metropolitan of Pskov and Porkhov Tikhon (Shevkunov) is one of the most famous and influential ministers of the church.

He made a long interview, answered many questions on many issues, but here are only kept the parts related to the issues around the Romanovs.



- I have a question dating back to 1917. In Russia there is still a partially communist society, and the attitude towards the Imperial Family, towards the empire, towards Nicholas II is rather sceptical among this part of the population. At the Council of Bishops, which was postponed until the spring of 2022, they were supposed to discuss the issue of recognizing the Imperial Family remains...

- Yes, we have prepared all the materials for five years together with the Investigative Committee. There was a new investigation, it was very interesting, we do not prejudge the outcome, of course, of the Council of Bishops, but we provide all the documents that have been worked out by the investigation, the historical commission and our church commission. We conducted genetic research at the request of His Holiness the Patriarch. The remains of the father of Nicholas II - Alexander III were raised, genetic samples were taken and compared with those in Yekaterinburg, and everything coincided there. His Holiness the Patriarch told about this, but the Council of Bishops will finally judge.

- But do you have all the expertise?

- All the examinations are there, they are quite satisfying to me, because I watched them all, but the disputes continue. But we can argue endlessly, so there is no doubt for me, although now I know that stones will be thrown at me, I have no doubts, but what the Bishops Council will decide here ...

- It turns out that if the Bishops Council makes a positive decision and recognizes that these are the remains of the Imperial Family, then they become relics?

- Yes, we recognize them as the relics of saints. But someone recognizes, someone does not recognize, I do not know how it will be, although for me it is completely obvious and here, I am not even going to be a hypocrite. We have just published all three volumes of the case, and they are posted on the website of the Investigative Committee, and everyone can have a look at these documents. There were not only genetic examinations, but there were also about 50 different examinations, and anyone can take and look without bias. After all, many people, just like me, did not trust the investigation that was conducted in the 90s. There were many reasons for this, including procedural reasons, that is, they took particles from the remains of brother Nicholas II, took the Yekaterinburg remains, but procedurally this was not properly formalized, and this aroused mistrust. And the head of the Investigative Committee Bastrykin spoke about this in his report, he was amazed at how carelessly the materials were drawn up.

- Well, a new state, in the 90s...

- Yes, there were still difficulties then, but now all these errors have been corrected, procedurally everything is perfect, and the research was carried out at the highest level. Professor Popov, one of the largest forensic experts, who also did not recognize these remains as a specialist, based on these errors. But when he was given skull number 4, which, presumably, belongs to Nicholas II, a passion-bearer ...

Nicholas Alexandrovich was still the heir during his trip in Japan, and there was an attempt on his life, and the policeman (this saying "Japanese policeman" just went) hit him on the head with a sabre and seriously wounded him, and the tomographs of that time could not yet show this wound. And the resolution of current tomographs is such that they gave the opportunity to analyse this skull, and Professor Popov saw the traces of injury that coincided with the traces on the hat which Nicholas II wore; now it is kept in the Hermitage. The blood of the last Russian Emperor was compared to the blood of Alexander II, his grandfather, who was killed in 1881 by terrorists, and his shirt also remained. The bloody shirt of Nicholas II, is also kept in the Hermitage.



When we became experts, we signed a document that in the case we know of false examination, we are subject to criminal liability, and the punishment is up to five years.

- *And if in the future there is again a positive response from the Council, then where will the remains and relics be kept, has the church already thought?*

- This is the prerogative of the Most Holy Patriarch and the Bishops' Cathedral - probably in the Peter and Paul Fortress, in the same place where almost all members of the Romanov family are buried.



- *By the way, recently in St. Isaac's Cathedral there was a wedding of the heirs, so to speak, of the Romanovs' house, how do you feel about some restoration of the monarchy here?*

- Well, this is a personal matter of these two newlyweds. But I remember one of my teachers - Metropolitan Pitirim Nechaev - he was from a family which had priests for almost 400 years, and even several saints, an amazing person, in Soviet times, while studying at the Bridgebuilding Institute, he decided to become a priest. So, in the mid-80s, the growth of such monarchical sentiments rose, interest in this and so on, I remember, was on duty at his reception, and some young and not very young people came in kind of imperial military uniform with many crosses ... And what struck me - full of St. George's knights, it's like me now to put on three times Hero of the Soviet Union and go somewhere. They came in this and asked to meet with Vladyka, and he just looked and was amazed: how can you put on military orders?! Such was the masquerade ...

- *Mummers?*

- The mummers say: "Vladyka, we must do everything to restore the monarchy, we need a Tsar now." He looked at them and said: "You know, give you a Tsar now - you will shoot him again in a week." So, the monarchy is, from my point of view, I am again ready to receive a portion of stones - this is a natural state for Russia, but in order to enter this natural state, we need to change a lot spiritually, this is a gift from God.

And there may be distorted monarchies, here is the Stalinist monarchy ... The Russian people, having destroyed their state in 1917, with unprecedented enthusiasm began to build the only thing that they can build on the state level - a monarchy again, but this monarchy was already communist. Unity, it is natural for our country, but it must be correct and natural. I know that many people, including those in the leadership of our country, are quite ironic about this my opinion, but this is their own business.

- Here my former boss said: "There is Putin - there is Russia, there is no Putin - there is no Russia." Many extol him, some say that, they say, here the tsar is on his way or something else.

- Well, this is a joke. Remember how Khazanov tried to put a crown on Putin's head, and what Putin did? He took the crown and put it on him. And Khazanov did it quite seriously, and Putin with a laugh put the crown on him - and that was all. Vladimir Vladimirovich, as far as I know, is ironic about all these matters, he plows and plows. I have the good fortune to meet him sometimes, but sometimes meetings take place at three o'clock in the morning. As a member of the Presidential Council for Culture, I am leading the restoration of Chersonesos, Vladimir Vladimirovich personally oversees this issue. At 10 o'clock you arrive in the evening and realize that you will have to wait a long time, and meetings take place there at three o'clock in the morning! And I already feel sorry for him, he is all ... well, what is a man at three o'clock in the morning ... I told him: "Vladimir Vladimirovich, let me show myself quickly, you still have visitors." And he: "No, no, tell me how everything is there. Only two (visitors), it is nothing"- and in the morning he gets up and goes back to work. Now again everyone will say - in the galleys.



This is an expression of Emperor Nicholas I - "I am a slave in the galleys." Nicholas I was an engineer on the throne, a man who absolutely did not want to be an Emperor, but this is how the fate developed that he had to take on the state that was falling apart after the Decembrists. He was an amazing man, he raised the country, but he was slandered, he was called Nicholas Palkin. And he dreamed of a career as an engineer, and how he was cursed, whatever he was called.



Alexander Sergeevich Pushkin, who later finally realized that and how in our great Fatherland, from a radical liberal became a monarchist and a statesman, and wrote to friends, saying about the Emperor: "I fell in love with him." Nicholas helped his family, paid all his debts and was the first to say, realizing that he would soon die: "You must receive communion." And Pushkin received communion before his death. They had a special relationship.

They don't like bosses anywhere, and especially in our country, in Russia, everywhere they go, they curse them everywhere, they are to blame for everything, but I think that Vladimir Vladimirovich has no illusions in this sense, he loves people - and this is the most important thing and whether they love him, he doesn't really care about it, believe me. He does his job - that's all.

Video – the full interview - <https://youtu.be/08F3AV6Doi8>

In memory of the Imperial Family - The Third St. Elisabeth Readings took place in the Urals

The Third St. Elisabeth Readings were held at two venues: in Yekaterinburg and Alapaevsk. For two days, on October 10 and 11, specialists from Moscow, St. Petersburg and other cities participated in the scientific and practical conference.



Traditionally, readings are held on the days of commemoration of the Holy Martyrs Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and the Sister Varvara. At Alapaevsk, members of the Romanovs' house and people close to them were shot and thrown into mines on the night of July 18, 1918. And on October 11 of the same year, the ashes of Elizabeth Feodorovna Romanova were raised and sent through China to Jerusalem with the regiments of the White Army, and in 1921 they were buried. Now, pilgrims from all over Russia come annually to the place of the saint's death at the man's monastery.

This year the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local Lore named after O.E. Kler celebrates its 150th anniversary. Conferences were held at its sites. Due to the threat of the spread of the coronavirus, some speakers spoke online.

The official opening of the readings took place in Yekaterinburg on Sunday. According to Anna Gromova, chairman of "Elisabeth-Sergius Educational Society", over the past twenty years, the historical consciousness of Russians has expanded, and now the imperial period of history is no less important for us than the Soviet era.



"Today we are talking about how important it is to preserve our historical memory, to pass on knowledge to our children from generation to generation. This is the only way we can preserve our national integrity, - said Anna Gromova. Those close to the Romanovs' house were glorified as saints by the Orthodox Church abroad in 1981, but in the Russian Orthodox Church they have not yet been glorified, so today we will be happy to say kind words."

Indeed, most of the reports of the conference participants were devoted to the activities of Prince Georgy Mikhailovich Romanov, the role of other Grand Dukes in the art and culture of the 19th century, the feat of the Alapaevsk martyrs, as well as the preservation of historical monuments. According to Tatiana Khoroshilova, press secretary of the Third St. Elisabeth Readings, 17 experts managed to make presentations in two days.

Vice-Governor of the Sverdlovsk Region Pavel Krekov noted that a lot has already been done to promote the history of the Imperial Family in the Urals.

"A historical museum has been opened in Alapaevsk, a branded route (Imperial route) has been created, exhibitions and performances are held. Still, there is a lot to be done - we are at the very beginning of a big serious path, and in the future the regional government will continue to aid and support this project," said Pavel Krekov.

On Monday, October 11, the conference participants went to Alapaevsk. Here, before the opening of the second session in the St. Elisabeth Convent, a prayer service was held to the Holy Martyrs Elisabeth Feodorovna and the Sister Barbara.



In addition, the first stone of the future church in the name of St. Alexander Nevsky was laid on one of the streets of Alapaevsk. The choice of the commander was not accidental: this year Russians celebrate the 800th anniversary of his birth. In Alapaevsk, the temple was destroyed about a hundred years ago. Now it will be restored in a picturesque corner on Beregovaya Street.

One of the speakers during the second conference was the head of regional programs of the "Elisabeth-Sergius Educational Society" Susanna Startseva. Her report was devoted to the development of historical and cultural tourist project "Imperial Route" in the Sverdlovsk Region. It has been implemented since 2018. In 2021 it includes 21 Russian regions.

"It was important to note how Alapaevsk has changed over the several years of the project's existence," says Susanna Viktorovna.

- We talked about the Imperial Route Project is connected not only with the Church, but with the industrial Urals, with its enterprises. Therefore, it is an important task to make sure that many of them are included in the route.

We also would like the project to sanctify the history of not only the Romanov family, but also other prominent personalities associated with Alapaevsk. Such, for example, can be the Tchaikovsky - father and son."

According to Susanna Startseva, a large route with big distance between settlements is an advantage, not a disadvantage, for the travellers along Imperial Route. The long trip allows you to immerse yourself in history, see all the memorable places and listen to informative lectures.

In the Alapaevsk Field School, members of the Imperial Family's house spent the last days before the execution; today, a museum was organized in this building.

An exhibition in memory of Prince Georgy Mikhailovich, the grandson of Nicholas I, has been opened here.

"This was the only Prince who could rightfully be called a museum worker," said Nikolai Neuymn, head of the department of the history of the Romanov dynasty of the Sverdlovsk Museum of Local Lore. "He ran one of the largest museums in the Empire for twenty years."

After the end of the conference, the participants returned to Yekaterinburg, where in the multimedia historical park "Russia is my history. Sverdlovsk Region" the ESPO Foundation has opened a mobile stand exhibition "Russian Missionaries". Prior to this, the exposition has already visited Kazan and Perm. Stands with photographs, references and articles talk about Russian missionary work, about ascetics and saints who influenced the development of the Orthodox Church in Russia.



Celebration of the uncovering of the relics of Saint Elizabeth

On October 11, 2021, on the day of memory of the Nun Martyr Elizabeth and the nun Varvara, a Divine Liturgy was held at the monastery of the New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church in Alapaevsk. The divine service was led by Metropolitan Eugene of Yekaterinburg and Verkhotursk and Bishop Methodius of Kamensk and Kamyshlov.

In these days in the Yekaterinburg Metropolis are the days of St. Elisabeth. The Divine Liturgy at the monastery of the New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church in Alapaevsk became one of the central events of these commemorative and festive events.

The arch pastors were co-served by: the secretary of the Yekaterinburg diocese, Archpriest Nikolai Maleta, abbot of the monastery of the New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church, Hegumen Moses (Pilates), acting the head of the missionary department of the Alapaevsk diocese, Hieromonk Seraphim (Shanin), the monastic brothers, clerics of the Alapaevsk diocese.

During the service prayed: the abbess of the nunnery in the name of the Holy Martyr Elisabeth Feodorovna in Alapaevsk, Abbess Smaragda (Zykova), the chairman of the Elisabeth-Sergius Educational Society Anna V. Gromova with her staff, Singer Saygid L. Bilalov and the head of the Alapaevsk Konstantin I. Deev.

Father Seraphim noted that it is possible to imitate the exploits of the Nun Martyr Elizabeth Feodorovna simply by doing good deeds:

- There are so many people around us, so many people in whose lives and in whose trouble, we can participate; a huge number of people who need our help. After all, help often consists in just listening to a person, supporting him with a word, and sometimes help will consist in not adding fuel to the fire when a person opens his soul and says something terrible about himself, not to condemn him and not humiliate, but support, comfort and direct on the right path.

At the end of the service, a cross procession took place to the mine, where in 1918, on the night of July 17-18, the Alapaevsk martyrs were thrown alive - Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, nun Varvara (Yakovleva), Grand Duke Sergei Mikhailovich,



Princes of the Imperial Blood, John, Konstantin, and Igor Konstantinovich, Prince Vladimir Paley and Secretary Fyodor Remez.



At the mine, the Most Reverend Bishops honored the memory of the innocent victims and performed a prayer service. Under a particularly heartfelt performance of the Cherubic song, censuring was performed around the mine, where on July 18, 103 years ago, the Alapaevsk martyrs were thrown. Now this place of martyrdom is a place of attraction for pilgrims from all over the world.

As a reminder, on October 11, the Russian Orthodox Church celebrates the day of the uncovering of the relics of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. 102 years ago, on this day from the mine near Alapaevsk, the remains of the Alapaevsk Martyrs were recovered.

The funeral service for the bodies raised from the mine took place eight days after they were found. Divine Liturgy and the funeral rite were performed in the Holy Trinity Cathedral of Alapaevsk. Then the bodies were placed in a "tightly walled crypt" on the south side of the church, from where they were taken out after the onset of the Red Army nine months later.

The celebration of the uncovering of the relics of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna Romanova was established with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia. The memorable date - October 11 - has been included in the church since 2017, when the first church-wide celebration took place.



A new exhibition of the House-Museum of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna "I am the way and truth and life"

The opening of a new exhibition of the House-Museum of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna "I am the path and truth and life" is timed to coincide with the day of the uncovering of the relics of the Martyr Elizabeth, which is celebrated on October 11.

The exhibition talks about one of the main events in the life of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna - her joining the Orthodox Church 130 years ago.

The title of the exhibition contains a quote from the Gospel "I am the way and the truth and the life" (John 4: 6), which was engraved on a medallion presented to the Grand Duchess by her husband on the day of her adoption of Orthodoxy. On the reverse side of the medallion were other words of the Saviour: "Do not be afraid, only believe" (Luke 8:50).

The exhibition features an icon of the holy righteous Elizabeth, the heavenly patroness of the Grand Duchess, presumably painted by Elizabeth Feodorovna herself. Also, guests will find an interesting exhibit - the Manifesto of Emperor Alexander III on the transition of the Grand Duchess to Orthodoxy.

Quotes from letters, portraits of loved ones of the Grand Duchess seem to appear through time and make us eyewitnesses of the most important event in the life of Martyr Elizabeth.

The exhibition is equipped with multimedia materials that complement the main exhibition.

The exhibition is accompanied by the Grand Duchess's favourite sacred musical works: "Now the Power" and "Assistant and Patron" by composer D. S. Bortnyansky.

The exhibition will be open to visitors until December 25 in the Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy, in Moscow.



A monument to Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna was consecrated in Kaluga

Press Service of the Government of the Kaluga Region - On October 21, in Kaluga, on the territory of the Kazan Convent, within the framework of the Conference of Regions Participating in the National Tourist Project "The Imperial Route", an opening of the monument to Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna took place.



Governor Vladislav Shapsha, Chairman of "Elisabeth and Sergius Educational Society" Anna Gromova, Archpriest Andrei Bogomolov, Dean of Kaluga, Abbess Anastasia of the Kazan Convent participated in the ceremony.

The monument was erected at the initiative of the Elisabeth-Sergievsky Educational Society with the support of the Government of the Kaluga Region. The author of the monument is sculptor Vyacheslav Klykov.



Vladislav Shapsha stressed that the installation of the monument is a tribute to the history of our people, to its righteous. It is not easy to follow the example of the Grand Duchess who gave people her love and warmth: “I hope that respect for historical memory allow us today and, in the future, to make the right decisions for the benefit of the residents of the Kaluga Region”.

Anna Gromova noted the symbolism of the event being held on the eve of the birthday of Elizabeth Feodorovna, this year also marks the 130th anniversary of her adoption of Orthodoxy. She was not only the Grand Duchess of the reigning house of the Romanovs, but also a benefactor, the founder of the Convent of Mercy. Her love for Kaluga was associated with a special veneration of Russian shrines. On the day of the 400th anniversary of the death of St. Lawrence of Kaluga on August 10, 1915, Elizaveta Feodorovna visited the Kazan Convent where a monument was erected as a call to mercy and love for one's neighbour.

In 1992, the Russian Orthodox Church canonized the Great Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth to the ranks of the Holy New Martyrs of Russia. Archpriest Andrei Bogomolov performed the rite of consecration of the monument to the saint, the participants of the event laid flowers.



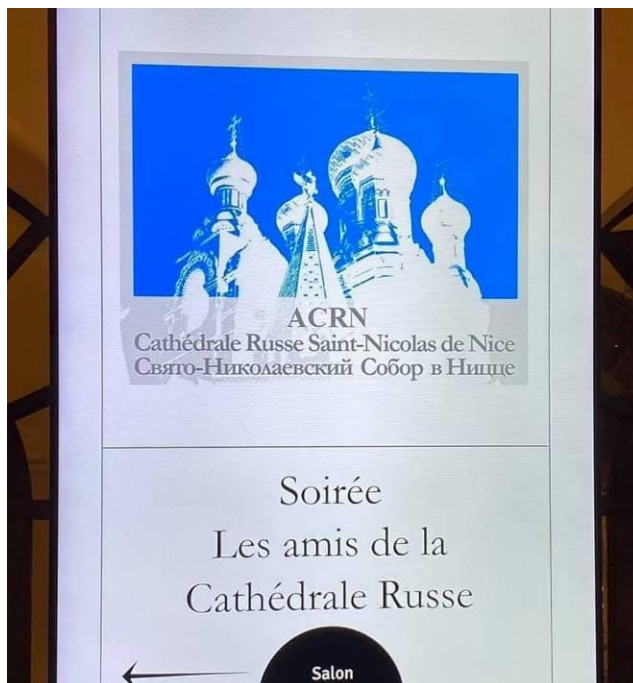


Members of the Romanov Family attended a charity gala dinner in Monaco

On October 1, 2021, in Monaco, at the Monte-Carlo Bay Hotel, a Charity Gala was held. It was organized by the Association of Friends of St. Nicholas Cathedral in Nice (ACRN).

The Association of Friends of St. Nicholas Cathedral was created in accordance with the French law on non-profit organizations of 1901. Its chairman is Pierre de Fermor, a member of the Union of the Russian aristocracy, a member of the Association of descendants of officers of the Imperial Guard in France, a member of the international "Petersburg Club".

The Romanov family was represented by the Honorary President of the ACRN Princess Feodora Alekseevna, the widow of Prince Dimitri Romanovich (1926-2016), the Vice-Chairman of the Romanov Family Association Prince Rostislav Rostislavovich, and His Serene Highness Prince George Alexandrovich Yourievsky with his wife Elikonida Yourievsky.



The evening passed with the blessing of the Patriarchal Exarch of Western Europe, Metropolitan Anthony of Korsun and Western European, and under the high patronage of the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the French Republic and the Principality of Monaco, Alexei Yuryevich Meshkov. The event was attended by the rector of St. Nicholas Cathedral in Nice, Archpriest Andrei Eliseev, representatives of the Principality of Monaco, the Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur region, the diplomatic corps, as well as the European and Russian aristocracy.



In the evening, an auction was held, limited to 5 works of art in the Russian style, as well as a charity lottery. The musical accompaniment with the participation of opera singers was accompanied by an exquisite dinner with accents of Imperial Russia.

An exhibition dedicated to the daughters of Nicholas II opened in Krasnodar

14 October. KI-News - In the center of Krasnodar, in the house of Liu Trakhov opened the museum "OTMA" - after the first letters of the names of the Tsar's daughters: Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia. It is in only two rooms, located on Mira Street, 61.

Massive wooden doors close with a creak behind you, and you are already in pre-revolutionary Russia. High ceilings with stunning stucco moldings, in the main room there is a huge chandelier, which was inherited from the owner of the house. It seems that only yesterday the candles burned out in it, and



the cinders keep the warmth of the fire. An antique piano that still remembers the hands of its owner, a tiled stove, oak floors, on which the residents of the house walked 100 years ago.

At first glance, it seems that the exhibition should be dedicated only to the daughters of the last Russian Emperor, but no: if you look closely at the black-and-white photographs, you can understand that not all the cards depict the four Romanov sisters.

The organizer of the exhibition decided not only to talk about what the brutally murdered innocent girls were like, but also to show the guests what that era was like. To recreate the atmosphere of pre-revolutionary Russia, to give the opportunity to imagine yourself in the place of these people who lived about a century ago



You seem to be in a loop of time and can already easily imagine yourself sitting on a wrought-iron bed, birds chirping outside the window, and your sister is writing a letter at an oak table. The clock has stopped, life has stopped, and a rich imagination finishes the picture.

The owner of the exhibition, Julia, has been collecting exhibits for about a year. She is not a specialist, but rather a devoted fan.

- This is my first exhibition, I have been looking for a room for a very long time, but I could not find anything preserved with the interiors and splendour of the pre-revolutionary era. Unfortunately, many people do not see in this the value, beauty, depth, spirit of the times, sophistication that has been erased behind the primitive forms and materials of our generations. But, by a lucky chance, I found this space. This is the house of my close friends, for some time there was a photo studio in it, after which it was temporarily mothballed. Most of the ceilings in the house were covered with office decorations, the walls of the large hall were covered with huge layers of paint and wallpaper. We removed it all by hand, and when a true drawing was born in front of my eyes, which saw the owner of the house himself, I cried.



The house of the merchant Trakhov, which became the abode of the exhibition, has been preserved in the form in which it was even before the revolution. The restoration project provided for the restoration of the facades and the repair of the roof. It was completed in 2014. For 120 years, the metlakh tiles in the corridor, marble heavy windowsills have been preserved here, and the walls, freed from layers of paint and wallpaper, showed their real pattern. And it becomes clear why the exhibition dedicated to the Romanov sisters ended up here.



Liu Trakhov was a well-known entrepreneur and philanthropist. He left a bright mark on the history of Krasnodar. The businessman has built up a whole block in Yekaterinodar, including this house. He erected a bridge across the Kuban River and paved a road that connected the city with his native Adygea. Liu Trakhov was a member of many public and charitable organizations of the Kuban region and a deeply religious person. There is a parallel between the philanthropist and the Imperial family. For a century they were forgotten and literally erased from history. The murder of the Romanovs was investigated for a hundred years. And the name of Trakhov was deliberately forgotten during the years of Soviet power.

The secrets of history are far from always possible to comprehend. Whatever one may say, but what we study from textbooks is someone's story. Hence, perhaps, the phrase: history is written by the winners. How everything really happened, what happened in that dark basement, what words did the Russian Emperor said in the end, did he see how his beloved daughters fall from the shots? Did the servants of the Imperial Family try to escape? This we will never know. But we can try to imagine how the young, beautiful girls who suffered only because they were the daughters of the Emperor felt. They did not choose the family in which they were born and their homeland, which they loved no matter what. It is known that one of the daughters of Nicholas II, Olga, was predicted to be married the Romanian Crown Prince Carol. However, Olga did not want to leave Russia, saying, that she will feel like a stranger in a new country. Who knew that at home, her own people would get rid of her in cold blood?



The idea of the exposition is Yulia's personal interest. She took to heart the tragedy that happened to the poor daughters of the Emperor. Unfortunately, you cannot find here items that belonged to the Grand Duchesses and their famous father. They are kept in state museums and private collections. But everything that is in Trakhov's house is valuable exhibits with a century-old history. There are a lot of photographs of the Grand Duchesses and their parents. They laugh, smile, frown from glossy cards. This is not a biographical story that claims to be authentic, but the fate of four girls who lived, wrote letters, fooled around and dreamed of a future that did not come for them.

- The innocently murdered young maidens, the purity of their diaries / letters that can be heard in the museum, and what has been done to them and the whole family with those close to them, the cruelty of people, is amazing. Exhibits from completely different cities: St. Petersburg, Krasnodar Territory, Moscow. I searched and collected furniture and objects from ordinary people who no longer needed them - says Julia.

By the way, in the house, you can touch absolutely all objects, and even lie on the bed. The exhibition, according to the organizer, gives everyone an opportunity to touch the history.

You will not find labels with inscriptions that explain the belonging of the exhibit and acquaint with its history. But, perhaps, this is even better: there is a chance that guests will become interested in the topic and study it on their own.

- Initially, I did not want someone to stand above all this and talk, I did not want there to be any descriptions, dates somewhere. So, all the liveliness of what has developed there is lost. I thought that if this fascinates the viewer, then he will turn to information sources and will discover everything - Julia admits.

Still, she decided to invite guides here to tell the groups about pre-revolutionary Russia.

- So, the museum will have more life and at the same time it will not lose the audience that I was counting on. Someone who wants to come, wander alone, sit in a chair, feel the atmosphere and feel the depth of letters, voices, music. To be here alone.

Julia admits that she does not want the exhibits to leave the house of Liu Trakhov.

- This interior decoration should be the property of the city and the eyes of guests and people living here. So far it makes me happy. Hopefully the project won't have to be closed.



Video - <https://kuban24.tv/item/v-krasnodare-na-ulitse-mira-otkryli-muzej-posvyashhennyi-docheryam-nikolaya-ii>

A unique exhibition dedicated to ceremonial horse riding opened at the Hermitage-Siberia Centre

The project "In a Light and Beautiful Harness" was created by the staff of the State Hermitage specifically for city Omsk.

Here you can see more than 150 items related to the theme of the ceremonial horse ride. Such trips were very spectacular, they were carefully planned, as they symbolized the greatness of the Imperial power. Saddlers and saddlebags, which were used to decorate horses during the coronation and funerals of members of the Imperial Family, harness for the Empress to travel on eight horses on special occasions - these and many other things came from the State Hermitage.



"I would like to note that this is not the first exhibition we are doing here, and we have established not only professional, but also friendly relations with Omsk colleagues. This project is a gift for Omsk. There has never been such an exhibition in the Hermitage itself," said George Vilinbakhov, Deputy Director of the State Hermitage.

80% of the exhibits came to Omsk directly from the restoration workshops. Visitors to the Hermitage-Siberia Centre will be the first to see them. One of the most interesting items is the gilded armor that was created for Grigory Orlov's horse. It is decorated with the family coat of arms of the favourite of Catherine II.

"It's interesting what this armour was used for: it was used for such a court celebration as a horse carousel, or a knight's carousel. As the name implies, such festivities originated from knightly tournaments. But if at the tournament the participants could get seriously injured or even die, then by the 18th century it all turned into theatrical and sports performances. The participants split into teams and competed. Grigory Orlov was a member of one of the teams, and this armor was made for him," says the curator of the exhibition, and State Hermitage employee Lyudmila Shatilova.



There are also women's riding clothes. Visitors can see a dress that belonged to the last Russian Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, wife of Nicholas II. She rode a horse in it when she was still the Grand Duchess.

"This dress was specially made for riding, and on a lady's saddle, on which they sat sideways, using only one stirrup. A wide skirt was laid out over the rump of a horse. And so that later it was comfortable to walk, she wrapped herself around and it was fastened to a special jacket. Nearby we placed a picture of Sverchkov, where a rider in such a dress sits on a horse," explained Lyudmila Shatilova



Some of the items that we can now see in Omsk were once part of the collection of the St. Petersburg Court Stables Museum, which was disbanded in 1922, but some things have survived in the Hermitage.

For example, a leopard skin saddlecloth. Thanks to the mannequins in the shape of horses (they were specially made for the exhibition), all the accessories are presented very clearly.



The exhibition occupies two halls. Looking at it, you can find out such curious details as, for example, the fact that the winter overcoat for saddlery was decorated with wolf fur, and the name of Peter I's favourite horse was Lisette. And, of course, horse lovers will see here images of these animals, made in different techniques.



Comfortable conditions have been created for each valuable item in the museum. The thing that is afraid of dust was enclosed in glass showcases. A certain temperature and humidity are kept in the halls. There are no windows, and each thing is illuminated just enough so that it does not harm it. The most "delicate" things - graphic works - will be replaced every three months. There will be three shifts in total.

Director of Omsk Museum
Farida Bureeva revealed a

secret: the theme of the horse in art will be continued next year, in a project that the museum is preparing to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Omsk region. The exhibition, which will feature works depicting horses from the funds of the Omsk Museum of Fine Arts, will open in the spring of 2022. The project "In the harness light and beautiful" will operate until August 28.

Video – 1) <https://youtu.be/8VmA6iL8ltk>
2) <https://12-kanal.ru/news/112361/>





Photo exhibition Dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the Russian Empire

On October 29, 2021, a photo exhibition dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the Russian Empire, and to its founder, first Russian Emperor Peter I, the grandson of Mikhail Feodorovich the first Tsar from the Romanov dynasty, opened in the showcase windows of the Local History Museum in city Orel.

As you know, many representatives of the reigning Romanov dynasty were closely associated with the Orel region, and these connections are rich and varied, from the visit by almost all the reigning persons to the city of Orel to the presence in the province of estates belonging to family members. Moreover, the first wife of Tsar Alexei Mikhailovich, Maria Ilinichna, was the daughter of the Bolkhov boyar Miloslavsky.

In 1787, returning from Crimea, Empress Catherine II visited Orel, and in 1823 Emperor Alexander I conducted military manoeuvres in Orel.

Orel was visited by Nicholas I and Alexander II, including in connection with the creation and opening of the Orel Bakhtin cadet corps, and one of the sons of Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich was a cadet of this corps.



Романовы в истории России

Более четырёхсот лет прошло со дня восхождения на Российский престол династии Романовых, чьё правление в течение трёхсот лет определяло основной вектор исторического развития страны и было прервано революционными потрясениями 1917 года. С Домом Романовых связано становление и развитие российской государственности, превращение Московского царства в могущественную Российскую империю. Трёхвековая история Российского монархического государства с его победами и поражениями, взлётами национальной культуры, достижениями науки и огромными социально-экономическими и политическими противоречиями, в конечном счёте взорвавшими страну в начале XX века, до сих пор вызывает противоречивые оценки учёных и общественных деятелей. Трагическая судьба царствующей семьи, уничтоженной в 1918 году новой властью, придала ей ореол мучеников, и в новой, постсоветской России, Романовы были канонизированы церковью и причислены к лику святых.

Первым монархом новой царствующей династии после пресечения на русском престоле рода Рюриковичей и разорительных для страны событий Смутного времени стал Михаил Фёдорович Романов, представитель старинного дворянского рода, избранный на царство Земским собором, собравшимся в Москве в 1613 году. Юному государю удалось вывести страну из внутреннего хаоса, сохранить государственность, и укрепить её международные позиции, заключив в 1617 году Столбовский мир со Швецией и Деулинское перемирие с Речью Посполитой в 1618 году. Его преемник Алексей Михайлович, вошедший в историю как «Тишайший», своими реформами способствовал экономическому подъёму страны и укреплению самодержавия, а при внуке Михаиле Фёдоровиче, Петре Алексеевиче, на политической карте появилась Российская империя. Именно при Петре I в результате административной реформы Орь в 1719 году стал центром провинции, а при Екатерине II в 1778 году центром губернии.

Многие представители семьи Романовых были тесно связаны с Орловским краем, начиная с посещения практически всеми царствующими особами Орла до владения ими имениями



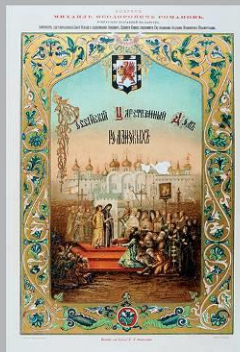
Герб Романовых

в Орловской губернии. В 1706 году город Болхов посетил царь Пётр I, в 1787 году, возвращаясь из Крыма, в Орле останавливалась императрица Екатерина II, в 1823 году император Александр проводил в Орле военные маневры и этот факт лёг в основу легенды о происхождении названия местечка Царёв Брод. Посещали Орёл Николай I, Александр II, в том числе в связи с открытием Орловского Бахтина кадетского корпуса, а один из сыновей Великого князя Константина Константиновича был кадетом этого учебного заведения. Любимцами орловцев были брат императора Николай II, дважды посещавший Орёл, Великий князь Михаил Александрович и сестра императрицы Великая княгиня Елизавета Фёдоровна. Наиболее тесно с Орловской губернией был связан Михаил Александрович, где ему принадлежало имение Брасово. В 1909–1911 годах он проживал в Орле, где был расквартирован 17-й гусарский Черниговский полк, командиром которого он был. В 1909 году по ходатайству Орловской городской Думы перед императором Великий князь Михаил Александрович принял звание Почётного гражданина города Орла. В Орловском краеведческом музее хранятся и экспонируются коронационные книги, литографические портреты и фотографии Романовых, вещи из Брасовского имения.

Начало династии



Успенский собор в Москве. 1475–1479 гг.



Боярин Михаил Фёдорович Романов, всенародно избранный на царство, принимает царскую корону из рук боярина Фёдора Ивановича Шереметева.



Царь Алексей Михайлович Романов (1629–1676)
Царствовал: 1645–1676 гг.

Начало империи – Романовы и Орловский край



Царь Пётр Алексеевич Романов
(1672–1725)
Царствовал: 1682–1725 гг.
1682–1696 гг. – совместно
с Иваном Алексеевичем,
с 1721 г. – император.



Медаль,
выпущенная
к 200-летию со дня
рождения Петра I.



Зерцало
с текстами указов
Петра I.



Преображенский собор
в городе Болхове.
В 1706 г. Болхов посетил Пётр I.



Императрица
Елизавета Петровна
(1709–1761)
Царствовала: 1741–1761 гг.

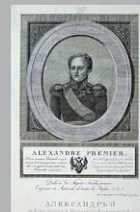
Романовы и Орловский край



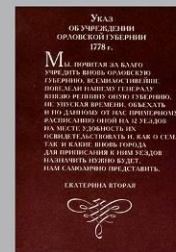
Императрица Екатерина II
(1729–1796)
Царствовала: 1762–1796 гг.



Московские ворота
в городе Орле.
1786 г.



Император Александр I
(1777–1825)
Царствовал: 1801–1825 гг.



Кресло работы провинциальных
мастеров конца 60-х годов XVIII в.
По легенде в нём сидела Екатерина II
в губерском правлении при посещении
города Орла в 1787 г.



Романовы и Орловский край



Император Николай II принимает
почётный караул 141-го пехотного
Можайского полка.
город Орёл, 6 мая 1904 года.



Николаевский бульвар.
Орёл, начало XX века.



Великий князь
Михаил Александрович Романов
(1878–1918)
Генерал-лейтенант, генерал-адъютант,
член Государственного Совета.
Орловский землевладелец.
Почётный гражданин города Орла.



Бал в Дворянском собрании
в честь Великого князя
Михаила Александровича и Великой
княгини Ольги Александровны.
Город Орёл, 1910 г.



Великий князь
Михаил Александрович
на охоте в имении Брасово.

Романовы и Орловский край



Великий князь
Константин Константинович
Романов (1858–1915)
Генерал-адъютант, генерал
от инфантерии, генерал-инспектор
Военно-учебных заведений,
президент Императорской
Санкт-Петербургской академии наук.
Неоднократно инспектировал Орловский
Бахтина кадетский корпус



Мемориальная доска Великому князю
Константину Константиновичу
в Орле на здании по адресу:
ул. Октябрьская, 47.



Введенский женский монастырь.
Орёл, начало XX века.
В 1913 году его посетила Великая княгиня
Елизавета Фёдоровна.



Великая княгиня Елизавета Фёдоровна
(1864–1918)
Сестра императрицы Александры Фёдоровны,
супруга Великого князя Сергея
Александровича. В 1898–1911 гг. шеф
51-го драгунского (с 1907 г. –
17-го гусарского) Черниговского полка,
расквартированного в Орле.
Основательница Марфо-Мариинской
обители в Москве.



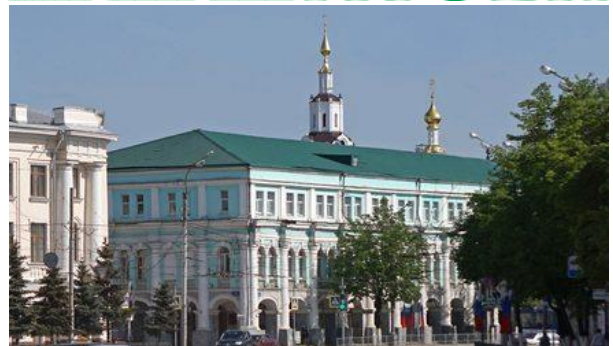
Памятная доска, установленная
в Свято-Введенском женском
монастыре города Орла.

The favourites of Orel's residents were Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, the brother of Emperor Nicholas II, who also visited Orel twice, and Grand Duchess Elisabeth Feodorovna, the sister of the Empress. Michael Alexandrovich was most closely associated with the Orel province, where he owned the Brasovo estate. In 1909 - 1911, he occasionally lived in Orel (unfortunately, the house has not survived), because he was commander of the 17th Chernigov hussar regiment quartered in Orel. In 1909, at the request of the Orel City Duma before the Emperor, Mikhail Alexandrovich received the title of Honorary Citizen of the city Orel.

Many well-known local historians studied the ties of the House of Romanov's House members with the Orel region, and coronation books, lithographic portraits of the Romanovs, photographs are kept in the funds and the library of the Orel Regional Museum. The autograph of the Grand Duke remained in the museum's guest book - "August 26, 1903. Michael".

The exposition includes things from the Brasovo estate, some of which are exhibited in the halls of the museum. The decoration of the exposition is a lifetime portrait of Peter I (oil on canvas) and an armchair, in which, according to legend, during a visit to Orel, Catherine II sat in public places. Colour photocopies of these items and original photographs are on display at the exhibition.

The Orel Museum of Local Lore dates to 1897. Over the long years of its existence, it was located at different addresses in the city of Orel. In 1932, the museum was housed in the building of the Trading Rows (an architectural monument of the middle of the 19th century), where it is still located. Over the course of more than 120 years, the museum's expositions have changed many times and corresponded to the spirit of their time. At the same time, their basis remained unchanged - collections of genuine artefacts stored in the museum's funds.



The arrival of Emperor Nicholas II was immortalized in the Kurgan region

8 October. Oblast45 - A memorial stone was erected in the Kurgan region in honour of the 130th anniversary of the arrival of Tsarevich Nikolai Romanov, the future Emperor of Russia Nicholas II. It was opened in Zverinogolovskoye village. The chairman of the Kurgan Regional Duma, deputies, members of the regional branch of the Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society, representatives of the clergy and residents took part in the ceremony.

The memorial stone was erected in the central park, next to the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.



A visit to the Trans-Urals land of the future Russian Emperor is an important milestone in the history of the region and a key moment in patriotic education. The Kurgan Regional Duma and the regional branch of the Imperial Orthodox Society pay great attention to these issues.

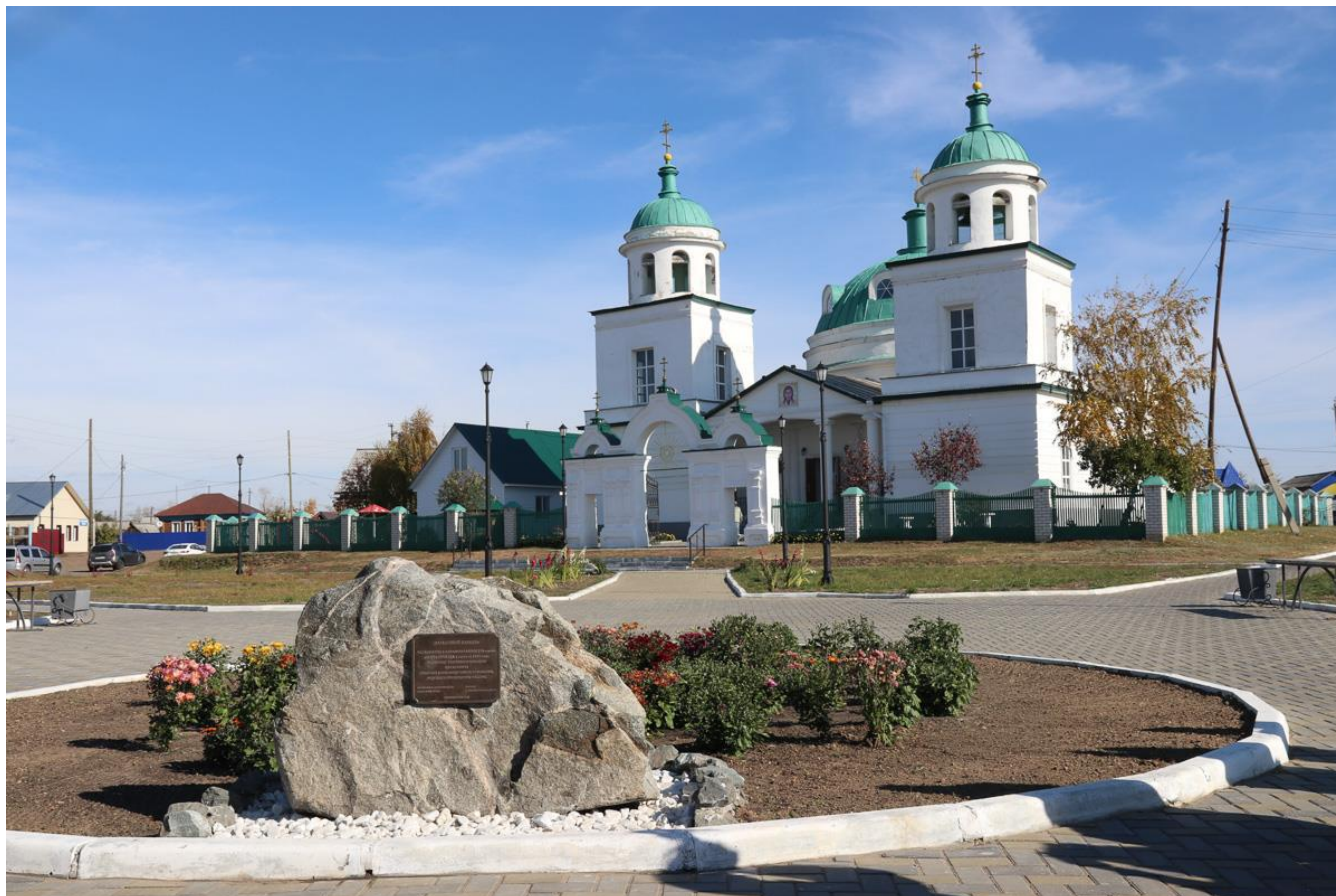
"We are carrying out work aimed at preserving our historical identity, the history of the Trans-Urals region," said the chairman of the regional parliament Dmitry Frolov - It is very important to talk about real patriotism and patriotic education".

This year marks the 130th anniversary of the arrival of Tsarevich Nicholas Romanov in Zverinogolovskaya. He visited the Trans-Urals land on August 2, 1891. At that time, he was the chief of

all Cossack troops. He travelled around the borders of the Russian Empire and checked the troops that were located along them.

The plaque dedicated to the historical event was cast in one of the workshops in Yekaterinburg. The memorial stone was installed at the expense of the regional branch of the Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society and the residents.

- The Kurgan regional branch of the Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society has decided to immortalize the Tsarevich, - said the regional Duma deputy, chairman of the regional branch of the Society Alexander Bryukhanov. - We opened it so that future generations would know about historical events that took place 130 years ago.



Deputies of the Kurgan Regional Duma admitted that this is a historic event not only for Zverinogolovsky, but for the entire Kurgan region.

- The event was hosted by the Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society, headed by Alexander Alexandrovich Bryukhanov. Thanks to him for organizing and carrying out all this, - added the first deputy chairman of the Kurgan Regional Duma Vladimir Sazhin. - The gift is very good and meaningful. - The good news is that we have more and more such caring people. We are doing a good job: we are restoring churches and remembering history,” said the deputy Oleg Popov.

Participants also honoured the memory of the heroes of the Civil and Great Patriotic Wars and participants in local conflicts, visited cultural and social facilities in Zverinogolovsky. A meeting of Imperial Orthodox Society was held in Krugloye village and plans for the society activity for the next year were discussed.

Video – 1) <https://youtu.be/3tcOBKnI7Qc>

2) <https://youtu.be/iX09i4P5IzE>

Bust of Emperor Peter I appeared in Gubkin

On the eve of the 300th anniversary of the Russian Prosecutor's Office in Gubkin, a bust of Peter I was solemnly opened. It was him who signed the decree and established the department in January 1722. The monument is located on Peter the Great Street near the Kristall Sports Palace.



The opening ceremony of the bust in honour of the first Russian Emperor was attended by the prosecutor of the Belgorod region Vladimir Torgovchenkov, the chairman of the regional public organization of veterans and pensioners of the prosecutor's office Viktor Dakhnov, the head of the city district administration Mikhail Lobaznov, the chairman of the Council of Deputies Galina Kolesnikova, assistant to the deputy of the State Duma of the Russian Federation Andrey Skoch and Alexey Miroshnik, representatives of the Gubkin prosecutor's office, schoolchildren and students.

According to Vladimir Torgovchenkov, a memorial plaque was recently opened in Gubkin in honour of the veterans of the Great Patriotic War who served in the Gubkin prosecutor's office. And now a new action of the prosecutor's office is starting - to perpetuate outstanding personalities who stood at the origins of the creation of the prosecutor's office of the Russian Federation.

"From the first days of its existence, the prosecutor's office has been guarding the rule of law. Over the past centuries, the department went through different times, traditions changed, but the honest and conscientious service of prosecutors to the law and the Fatherland remained unchanged. Since the times of Peter the Great, the prosecution bodies have changed significantly, their activities today are very multifaceted, but the foundation laid by Peter I remains unchanged - the human rights role, ensuring the observance of human rights and freedoms, state interests, combating crime, corruption, and enforcing laws. Paying tribute to this great man - the founder of the prosecutor's office, we want to perpetuate his memory by opening a monument," said Vladimir Torgovchenkov.

To the applause of the audience, he handed letters of gratitude for cooperation and assistance in the preparation of commemorative events dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the Russian prosecutor's

office, to the head of the city district administration Mikhail Lobaznov, the Charitable Foundation *Generation*, and the chairman of the district council of veterans Anatoly Zamaraev.

“During the reign of Peter the Great, many reforms were initiated both in the state system and in the military,” stressed Mikhail Lobaznov the head of the city district administration. He called on young people to study the history of their homeland in order to further strengthen our great state.

On behalf of the State Duma deputy, President of the Generation Fund Andrei Skoch, his assistant Alexei Miroshnik expressed gratitude to the Gubkinsky people for their joint work, noting that preserving the historical memory is their main activity.

The right to open the memorial was given to the employees of the Gubkin prosecutor's office. By tradition, flowers were laid at the monument.

Video - <https://youtu.be/qltjcfZizts>



A monument to Emperor Alexander II appeared near Voronezh

A monument to the Tsar-Liberator Alexander II appeared in Otradnoye village, Novousmanskoy District. The sculptor Alexander Kozinin is from the Voronezh region. The monument on a scale of 3:1 is made of composite.



Alexander Kozinin told that they decided to restore historical justice in Otradnoye. The first monument to Alexander II was located on the central street of Gololobovo village - now it is at the intersection of Pervomayskaya Street and Svoboda Street in Otradnoye. The original monument was opened on April 13, 1911, and in 1917 - by decree of the Bolsheviks - was demolished. Parts of the pedestal remained from the old monument.

Alexander Kozinin has been working on the monument for over a year. It took a lot of time to recreate the image of the Emperor:

- I worked with historical documents, delved into character. The Tsar-reformer did a lot for Russia, survived a series of assassination attempts. I studied all the existing sculptural images of Alexander II, so as not to repeat. Historical accuracy is very important for me, so that all the details correspond to the era. The Emperor was 185 cm tall, his sculptural image was proportionally increased, even the size of the shoes - everything corresponds to the original.

The coat of Alexander II is decorated with only two orders. The first is the St. George cross, with which he did not part, because he received it for courage shown in Caucuses.

- The second order strained me. The fact is that this is the highest Prussian Order "Pour le Mérit". It is evident that it was dear to Alexander. You can't go against history. I portrayed the epaulettes of field marshals - with crossed marshal's wands and the monogram of his father - Nicholas I. The Emperor was indifferent to this, but he always appeared in them.



The Emperor is depicted sitting in a strict armchair with a book in his hand. The look is thoughtfully directed into the distance.

- As if reading, he paused for a minute and laid the book down with his finger. At that time, the titles of works were not squeezed out on the covers, only on the title page. But it seems to me that it was Turgenev.



A monument to Emperor Alexander II will be opened in the center of Chelyabinsk

"Monument to Tsar Liberator Alexander II" on the Scarlet Field, in front of the main entrance of the Alexander Nevsky Church, is to be opened. The monument has already been erected, but has been closed from prying eyes, except for a small period.

First the opening was planned for October 6th, 2021, but was then postponed to October 10th, to be part of the forum of the World Russian People's Cathedral, but then it was cancelled due to the coronavirus - it was told in the Chelyabinsk diocese.

A little later, the Russian Orthodox Church announced that it was nevertheless necessary to resolve issues with the documents. Local historians have identified a violation: the monument was erected next to the cultural heritage site - the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral - too early. First, it was necessary to wait for the expert opinion, whether such a neighbourhood would harm the former Organ Hall. And only with the approval of specialists, the installation could start. The Russian Orthodox Church hopes that the issues with the documents will be settled soon. The opening ceremony is going to be held maybe on the National Unity Day, November 4 or on the Day of St. Prince Alexander Nevsky, December 6.

Moscow sculptors Igor Yavorsky-Linnik and Konstantin Kubyshkin worked on the monument. The sculpture was cast in Zhukovsky.

The site for the monument was approved by the City Duma deputies at a regular meeting on May 25.

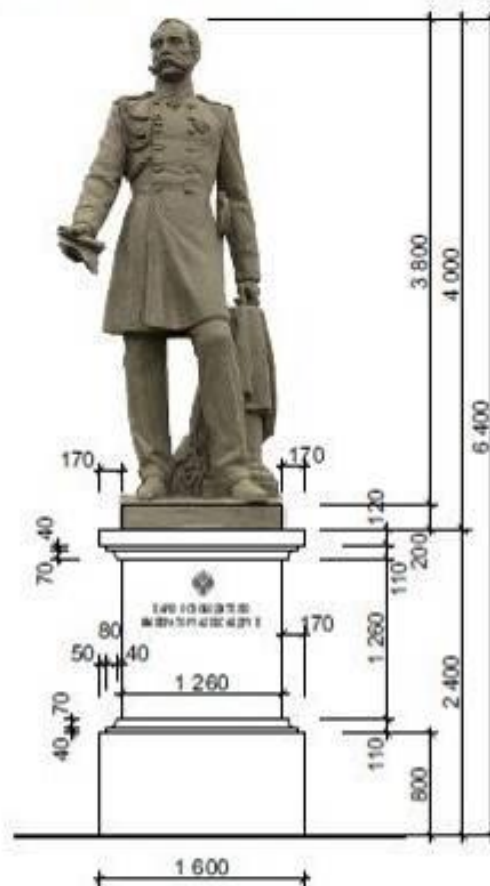
- The Emperor of Russia Alexander II went down in the history of the state as the Tsar-Liberator and a great reformer, - then the decision of the deputies was explained in the press service of the City Duma. - During the reign of Alexander II, the Russian Empire carried out reforms of unprecedented scale: the abolition of serfdom, reform of higher education, financial, judicial, military reforms, reform of city government and others.

The Orthodox Church of Alexander Nevsky was built in 1907-1914. The area near the church was named Alexandrovskaya. The church was consecrated in memory of the Holy Blessed Prince Alexander Nevsky. Built according to the project of the world-famous Russian architect Alexander Pomerantsev. Until 2013, the church housed a chamber and organ music hall. The last musical concert took place on November 27, 2013. In December 2013, the organ was dismantled and moved to another place. The Cathedral was returned to the Russian Orthodox Church. It is an object of cultural heritage of the Chelyabinsk region. Until October 2022 Alexander Nevsky Cathedral is closed for reconstruction. For 464 million roubles, the contractor will repair the roof, communications, ventilation, restore the facade, windows, doors, interiors, including painting. The cultural and religious object will be restored with federal funds.

Chelyabinsk residents "liberated" the monument to Emperor Alexander II

In Chelyabinsk, on the night of October 12, unknown persons removed the cover from the monument to Alexander II. As they joke on social networks, the Chelyabinsk residents themselves freed the Emperor.

Фасад и план постамента. М 1:50.





The “unveiled” monument was quickly covered up with an opaque cloth, and a little later covered completely in boards.

- “We decided to close the monument. The snowfalls have begun, and besides, we have a lot of vandals. As when guys at half past four in the morning came up, took off the shelter, and photos of the monument appeared everywhere. So, we decided to close it. We made a frame, sheathed it with fiberboard, insulated it” - told the representative of St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral.

The issue of the premature installation is however not so easy to hide and the case is developing. Now, the State Committee for the Protection of Cultural Heritage Objects of the Chelyabinsk Region has also announced, that it plans to bring to administrative responsibility the initiators of the installation of the monument to Emperor Alexander II. According to them, the initiators of the monument did not agree with the state committee on the project for the preservation of two objects of cultural heritage - the Scarlet Field and the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral.

“It has been established that work has been carried out to install a small architectural form - a monument to Emperor Alexander II, the Tsar-Liberator, on the lands of undifferentiated state property. According to the law, construction and other work within the boundaries of the territory or on the land plot associated with it is carried out if there are sections in the project documentation on ensuring the preservation of the cultural heritage object or a preservation project, including the assessment of the work agreed with the state committee. The state committee did not receive an application for the approval of the documentation. An order was issued to eliminate violations,

We are talking about article 7.14 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of the Russian Federation "Organization or conduct of earth, construction or other work without the permission of the body exercising state supervision over the state, maintenance, preservation, use, popularization and state protection of cultural heritage sites."

The punishment for legal entities under this article is up to 1 million roubles.

The monument also attracted attention of creative people. Photographer Ekaterina Vasilyeva staged an unusual performance by dressing her friend in trash bags. The wrapped-up monument looks especially symbolic against the background of the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, which is also closed - I was inspired by what is happening in the city, - said Ekaterina Vasilyeva. - And this "faceless monument", which in this form is already a work of art itself. And this metaphor came to me: monuments wrapped up - architecture wrapped up - we wrapped up.



An exhibition dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the Russian Empire for the first time presented more than 400 original documents

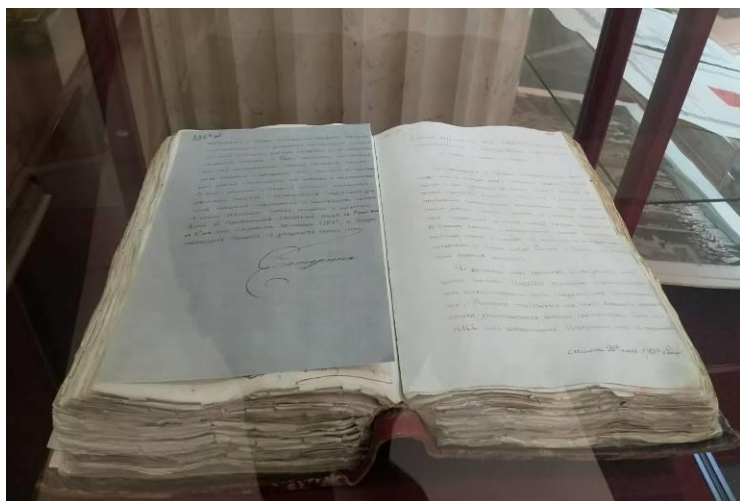
On October 13, 2021, the historical and documentary exhibition "To be like this... On the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the Russian Empire" opened in the Russian State Historical Archive in St. Petersburg.

"In 1721, Russia was declared an empire, and St. Petersburg was its capital. This is the brightest page in the history of our country. Russia has become one of the most powerful states in the world," said Alexander Beglov. He noted that in addition to artefacts from federal archives, the exhibition presents historical materials from St. Petersburg depositories.

"The archives of St. Petersburg store more than 11 million documents on the history of the city. These are real treasures of our history and culture," the governor emphasized.



At the exhibition, federal and city archives are presented more than 400 original documents: drawings, graphic materials and photographs revealing the origin, formation and development of the new Russian state from the reign of Peter I to the abdication of Emperor Nicholas II and Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich in 1917.



A special place among the exhibits is occupied by materials from the State Register of Unique Documents of the Archival Fund of the Russian Federation - the manifesto of Emperor Paul I "On the full coat of arms of the All-Russian Empire", Alexander I "On the establishment of ministries", Nicholas I on the introduction of the Code of Laws of the Russian Empire, Alexander II on the abolition of serfdom, as well as the Regulations on the peasants who emerged from serfdom, with the resolution of Emperor Alexander II "Be in this way" and the manifesto of Emperor Nicholas II about the beginning of the war with Germany.



In addition, the exposition includes the genealogies of the Rurikovich and Romanov dynasties, "Civil alphabet with moralizing", edited by Emperor Peter I, his decree on the transfer of power to the Senate during the absence of the Sovereign from the capital, the form of the senators' oath of allegiance to the state and the decree on "the position of the Senate", "General regulations of all collegiums" 1720, "Regulations of the Spiritual Collegium and additions to it", a manuscript with comments and additions of Peter I and others.



Participants of the exhibition are the State Archives of the Russian Federation, the Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts, the Russian State Archive of the Navy, the Russian State Archive of Film and Photo Documents, the Central State Historical Archive of St. Petersburg, the Central State Archive of Film and Photo Documents of St. Petersburg, as well as the State Museum-Reserve "Pavlovsk".

A historical retrospective of Russian Emperors portraits

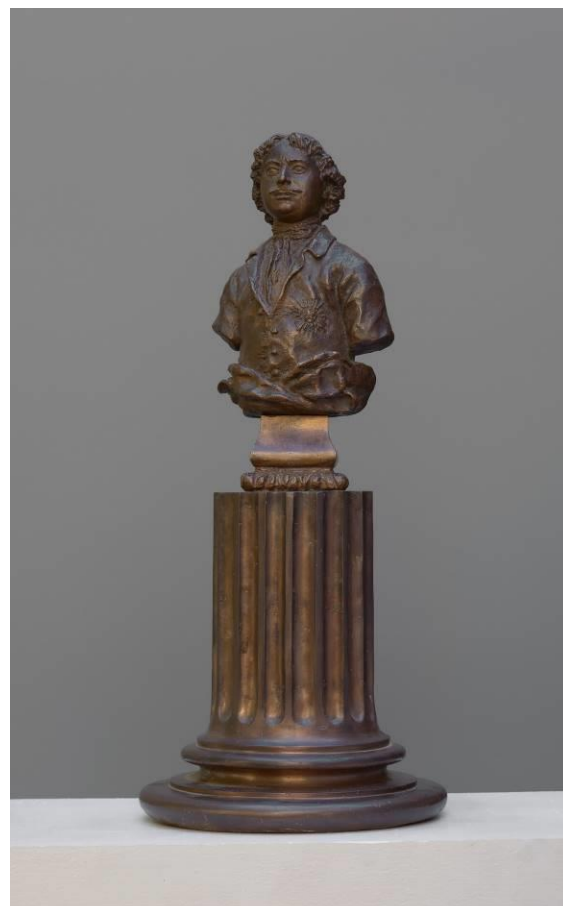
On October 14, 2021, in honour of the 300th anniversary of the proclamation of the Russian Empire (1721), ROSIZO presented a historical retrospective of portraits of Russian Emperors through the optics of contemporary Russian artists in the Exhibition Halls (Petroverigsky Lane, Moscow).

The sculptor Leonid Baranov, artists Genya Chef and Elena Shipitsova presented their works, as well as artefacts from the ROSIZO collection. The project is carried out with the assistance of the Charitable Foundation for the Support and Development of Education, Creativity and Culture.

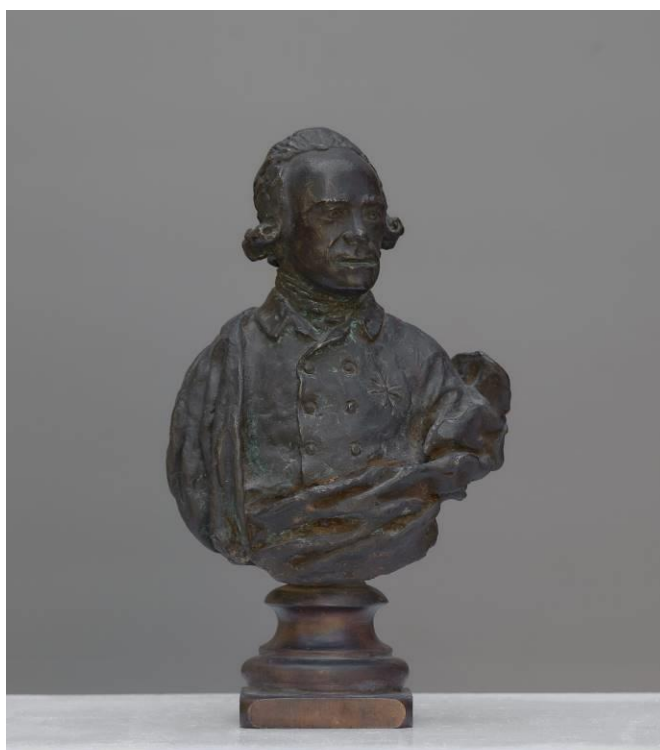
"Imperial Portraits. Historical Retrospective" exposition helps to comprehend the 300-year era of the greatness of the Russian Empire through the prism of modern fine art, thus preserving the connection of times.

Most of the works is made by Russian sculptor Leonid Mikhailovich Baranov, Honored Artist of Russia and Academician of the Russian Academy of Arts., who entered the history of Russian art with his images of famous personalities of Russian history and culture back in the early 1970s. His works are distinguished by the individuality of the interpretation of the historical portrait, as well as experimental work with spatial solutions. His main theme - the poetic interpretation of the images of the great figures of history, science and culture - he remains true to this day.

Among his works are several busts of the Romanov rulers, ending with one of Emperor Nicholas II.



*Emperor Peter the Great (2003).
Artist L.M. Baranov.*



Empress Catherine the Great (2004) and Emperor Paul I. (2003). Artist L.M. Baranov.



Emperor Nicholas II. (2018). Artist L.M. Baranov.

Peter Baranov conducts an excursion for students of the Art Lyceum at the Russian Academy of Arts. The son of the famous Leonid Baranov knows the peculiarities of both art history and technology. The second is especially important for future sculptors.

"Maybe I pick up some idea, or how to look at the silhouette of sculptures, what is important to sculpt - the technique is particularly important to me," shared Liliana Sharomova, a student at the Moscow Central Art School at the Russian Academy of Arts.

Sculptor Leonid Baranov's creative baggage contains portraits of the best people of different eras: Lomonosov, Pushkin, Dostoevsky. In recent years, he turned to the images of Emperors.

"His most beloved character is Peter. Baranov always gravitates towards external expansion. He loves compositions constructed in an unusual way. He loves to capture the space around him," said Victoria Zubravskaya, from the State Museum and Exhibition Complex ROSIZO.



Here - Peter defeated Charles XII in the Battle of Poltava. In this composition - the Russian Emperor in Paris with Louis. "All of Europe is in my hands," says Peter. Leonid Baranov is a connoisseur of history, a lover of plotting.

Menshikov and Lefort are guessed next to Peter. Behind the figure of Catherine are her favourite architects Bazhenov and Kazakov.

"Three epochs, three times are represented here - from Peter the Great to Nicholas II. It was interesting to show not only the Emperors, but also the circle thanks to which Russian culture and history developed and flourished," said the curator of the exhibition, Honored Artist of Russia Peter Baranov.

Suvorov prepares to go into battle with a shield depicting Alexander Nevsky. Young Paul peers into the future, where he is already an Emperor. Pushkin and Natalia Goncharova walk in the Summer Garden and casually meet the Emperor Alexander. Russian history in bronze, plaster, drawing seems to come to life here.

The exhibition runs from October 14 to November 14, 2021.

Video - <https://smotrim.ru/article/2628653>



Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



Prince Michael of Kent visited the Alexander Palace

14 October - Prince Michael of Kent, together with a delegation from Great Britain, came to Tsarskoye Selo museum today to inspect the interiors of the Alexander Palace, which opened after a large-scale restoration in August this year.

The personal apartments of Emperor Nicholas II and his wife Alexandra Feodorovna were shown to the guests by the director of the museum Olga Taratynova.

Prince Michael of Kent and his compatriots saw the Reception Room, the Study, the Moorish, Valet and State Study, the Suite, Bedroom, Lilac Study, Rosewood and Maple, Corner Living Rooms and Library premises, as well as the Hall with a slide, where the craftsmen continue to work now. The guests highly appreciated the result of the restoration work of Russian specialists.



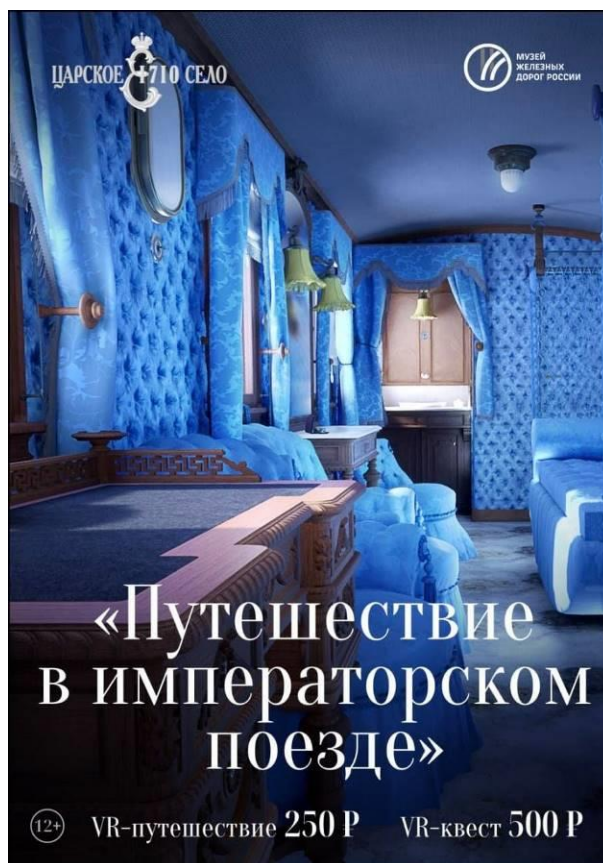
Virtual Reality journey in the imperial train

13 October - In one of the halls in Alexander Palace's basement, the VR-project "Travel in the Imperial Train" has begun. Wearing special glasses, visitors will look inside the carriages that served several Russian Emperors. With the help of modern technologies in virtual reality, the historical interiors of the carriages of one of the first trains of Tsarist Russia have been recreated in the smallest detail.

This joint project of the Tsarskoye Selo Museum-Reserve and the Museum of Russian Railways was implemented with the technical support of the Infomedia Bureau of Creative Initiatives.

Those wishing to travel have two options. First, take a virtual tour and immerse yourself in the history of the Imperial Train. Second: complete the thematic quest in the setting of the royal carriages, interacting with various objects and internal elements.

The history of Russian railways is closely connected with the Tsarskoye Selo residence and the Alexander Palace. In 1837, the country's first public railway connected St. Petersburg with Tsarskoye Selo and quickly became a favourite way of transporting members of the Imperial Family from the capital to a suburban summer residence. Under Nicholas I, a railway was built between St. Petersburg and Moscow. In 1857, in Tsarskoye Selo Emperor Alexander II signed a personal decree on the construction of a railway network in Russia. During the reign of Nicholas II, in the immediate vicinity of the Alexander Palace and for the convenience of moving the owners and guests of the residence, several branches of



the railway were built, which made it possible to get from Tsarskoe Selo to the most remote regions of the country without changing the carriages. After the outbreak of the First World War, from the platform of the Tsar's pavilion, Nicholas II regularly went to headquarters in Mogilev; the Imperial Family with those close to them was sent by train from the Alexander Palace to exile in Tobolsk.

Initially, individual imperial carriages were attached to general passenger trains, then they began to be grouped into independent trains. By 1902, the imperial park had eight trains. After the revolution, their fate was different: some were used by representatives of the new government, others were rebuilt and adapted for passenger traffic, and three imperial cars were installed in the Alexandria park - they died during the Great Patriotic War.

Out of several dozen carriages made for the Romanovs, only three have survived to this day, which were part of the train intended for travel through the territory of the Grand Duchy of Finland. Now these are exhibits of the Finnish Railway Museum in the city of Hyvinkää.

These cars were created for the travels of Alexander II on the Finnish railway, which connected St. Petersburg and Riihimäki. Made in Germany in 1870, the Emperor's carriage, painted blue on the outside and decorated with double-headed eagles, was trimmed with walnut on the inside, and the furniture was upholstered in dark green leather. The car of his wife Maria Alexandrovna and the saloon car were converted from passenger cars in the workshops of the Finnish Railway in 1875-1876. The interiors were decorated with red and blue silk, which was especially loved by the Empress.

Alexander III, Maria Feodorovna, together with the Tsarevich Nikolai Alexandrovich (the future Nicholas II) used the Finnish imperial train in 1885 and 1891 to travel between Vyborg and Lappeenranta during their vacation in the Grand Duchy. The last time a representative of the Russian Imperial House of the highest level - the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna rode in the carriage of a Finnish train in 1914. Caught up in the outbreak of the war in England, she was forced to return to Russia, bypassing the countries of central Europe. On July 26, 1914, the Empress wrote about this in her diary: "I slept beautifully in an old Finnish carriage, which was in operation even when my father and mother were alive. The last time we went in a similar car was when we were heading to Vilna to the banks of the river, and now, to our surprise, the same conductor appeared in the car as in those distant times. Everything was fine, except that there was no electricity <...>".

After this trip, in 1915, the tsarist cars were slightly modernized - they were equipped with electric lighting and organized water supply to toilets. In this form, the Emperor's carriage, the Empress's carriage and the saloon carriage have survived to this day. In the Finnish Railway Museum, due to the historical significance and state of preservation of these objects, they can only be viewed from the outside. In the Alexander Palace it is now possible to "ride" in carriages virtually.





"Her birth became our joy and happiness"

18 October - Grand Duchess Maria Alexandrovna (Duchess of Edinburgh and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha) was born on October 17, 1853 in Tsarskoye Selo. She was a long-awaited child in the family of Tsarevich Alexander Nikolaevich (future Alexander II) and his wife Maria Alexandrovna, since after the birth of their first child, daughter Alexandra, the couple had only sons, and Alexandra died at the age of seven.

The girl was named after her mother and grandmother, the wife of Paul I - Maria. The only daughter in the family was the favourite of the parents. According to the recollections of contemporaries, both her mother and especially her father "doted" in her, and she paid them with sincere affection. But her father was closest to her: between Mary and the Emperor, a surprisingly tender, cordial and trusting relationship developed - they remained so until the death of Alexander II.

"Her birth became our joy and happiness ... - noted Alexander Nikolaevich. - When she studies in the classroom, our schedules do not coincide, and we can play only occasionally, but on Sundays she is all mine and we certainly go for a walk together ... Yesterday, when the time came, I could not help but send her a telegram about how I think about her and about our walks. "

For her beloved daughter, when she was eight years old, according to the decree of the Emperor and according to the project of the architect Monighetti in the Catherine Park near the Lebyazhy pond, a "toy" estate "Fermochka" was built, consisting of two huts, "clean" and a dairy, a cowshed and a poultry house with dovecote. The buildings in the best traditions of the neo-Russian style were log huts with gable roofs with carved platbands, shutters, towels and cornices. The estate also made an elegant impression thanks to the many tub plants that adorned the territory. On Fermochka it was possible to run a "real" dairy farm and treat guests, setting the tables with porcelain and glass sets. The buildings have not survived to this day - they burned down or were dismantled during the war and occupation. The grown-up Grand Duchess was, according to her contemporaries, an intelligent, highly educated, well-read girl with a kind heart and calm disposition. She played the piano perfectly, knew foreign languages (French, German and English), had excellent manners, was distinguished by her attractive appearance and great charm, which allowed her to win the hearts of everyone who met her.

Enchanted by her, Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh (1844-1900), sought Mary's favour for about five years. And only in the summer of 1873, Maria Alexandrovna met with him in Darmstadt and agreed to become his wife. The wedding took place on January 23, 1874, in St. Petersburg. The Emperor gave as a dowry an unheard-of sum of 100,000 pounds in those days, plus an annual allowance of 20,000 pounds.

On the wedding of the Russian Princess and the English Prince, dignitaries from different countries came to St. Petersburg, accompanied by a large retinue. For the first time, the Romanovs were married to the English Royal House and attached great political significance to this event.

"Nothing could be imagined more magnificent than this solemn banquet," wrote the English envoy, Lord Loftus. - The brilliance of the richest jewels mingled with the brilliance of uniforms, gold and silver dishes and luxurious Sevres porcelain. Throughout dinner, the talented Italian opera singers Patti, Albani and Nicolini sang, adding even more grandeur to this stage of incomparable beauty that is difficult to describe. "



After a ceremonial dinner, the newlyweds left for Tsarskoe Selo, where chambers in the Alexander Palace were prepared for them, and on February 16, Maria Alexandrovna and the Duke of Edinburgh departed for England. The Emperor accompanied them to Gatchina: he could not get used to the idea that his adored Maria would no longer live next to him.

In 1893, Alfred inherited the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha from his uncle and they moved to live in Coburg. In 1893, her husband became Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, as his older brother Edward renounced his claim to the throne. Mary became Duchess, retaining the title of Duchess of Edinburgh. Having settled in Coburg, Maria Alexandrovna began a new life, settling in the ducal palace, doing charity work, opening medical institutions for the sick and the poor. Her passion was opera and theatre, so she devoted a lot of effort to the formation of this art form in Coburg. Everyone respected the Duchess of Edinburgh for her education, taste, endurance, loyalty to family values, devotion to her husband and dignity.

After the death of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the ducal throne passed to his nephew, Prince Charles Edward, Duke of Albany. The Dowager Duchess Maria remained to live in Coburg. She died in 1920 and was buried in the dukes' family cemetery on the outskirts of Coburg, a small town in Bavaria that became a second home for the Grand Duchess and a place of eternal rest.

Romanov buzz



In the Gatchina Palace, an exhibition of one exhibit "Fatherhood" opened on 15 October. A children portrait of Grand Duke Nikolai Pavlovich and Grand Duchess Anna Pavlovna was presented.

The portrait of the children of Emperor Paul I was painted in 1797 by the famous artist, court painter Vladimir Borovikovsky (1757 - 1825). The future Emperor Nicholas I is one year old; the future Queen of the Netherlands Anne is two years old. For several reasons, Paul I did not buy the canvas from the artist. The painting ended up in the Imperial Family only under Emperor Alexander II, who acquired the portrait of his father and aunt from the artist Ivan Bugaevsky-Blagodarny, a student of Borovikovsky, to whom the master bequeathed this work. Alexander II placed the painting in his office in the Gatchina Palace. The small canvas, only 30 centimetres wide and 37 cm high, is filled with symbols that characterize not only the status of the infants depicted in the portrait, but also the attitude of their parents towards them. Pavel Petrovich and Maria Feodorovna had ten children, Anna was the 8th child, Nikolai the 9th. The exhibition will run until December 12, 2021.

Learn more about the painting in the video - "Online with the Guardian": <https://youtu.be/j42DhhiQpOM>





The restoration of the most famous monument to Peter the Great - the Bronze Horseman - has begun in St. Petersburg. The restoration work is planned to be completed next year - by the 350th anniversary of the birth of the first Russian Emperor.

The last photo for memory. The Bronze Horseman is hidden behind a grey fence. One of the main symbols of the city is now hidden from the eyes of tourists for months

Artur and Alina Salikhovy, tourists from Ufa: "We are glad that we had time. We flew from Ufa to see the Bronze Horseman, and our dream came true."

The Bronze Horseman has a "bronze" disease. Corrosion threatens the entire monument. The outbreaks were discovered last year. Then experts examined the

monument. They noticed the finest hairline cracks. If not healed in time, they will creep all over the sculpture. Replacement requires lead casting under the horse's hind legs - these are the main attachment points of the figure. But the third - the support rod that goes through the horse's tail and the snake's body - has yet to be found. All previous attempts to x-ray thick metal have ended in nothing. Nadezhda Efremova, employee of the Museum of Urban Sculpture, curator of city monuments of St. Petersburg: "We really hope that modern means, modern devices will help us to determine this and we will see the state of this rod with the help of an oat endoscope."

The stone will be put in order. A lump in the form of an oncoming wave cracked. Seams became visible between the four parts from which the pedestal was assembled. They will be cleaned and disguised. As well as the cracks at the base of the monument.

Yuri Shchedrov, General Director of the restoration workshop: "The greatest difficulty is the granite site. It is in an unsatisfactory condition. There are a lot of losses, a lot of cracks, seams divergence."

Until the end of the week, the workers will wrap the Bronze Horseman. A special greenhouse will be built around the monument to carry out work in the cold season. It never left his pedestal. Even during the Blockade.

The Bronze Horseman was covered with sand, but they did not take him to evacuation. Such a belief: while Peter I is in his place, nothing threatens St. Petersburg

The scaffolding around the Bronze Horseman is planned to be dismantled for the New Year. By this time, experts expect to complete all restoration work and return the Senate Square to its usual appearance.

Video - <https://smotrim.ru/article/2628615>



The apartment building where Grand Duke Nikolai Mikhailovich lived is put up for auction in Vologda.

The city administration has again put up for auction a cultural heritage site. This time, they offer to take for free use Grigorieva's apartment building, located on the embankment of the VI Army Street, 99a.

The house was put up for auction for the sale of the right to conclude a contract for gratuitous use. This means that residents of Vologda who



are interested in preserving the building can lease it for 25 years - this period is specified in the contract.

In addition, the tenant's responsibilities will include the restoration of an object significant for the city and the organization of its protection. The initial price for the right to conclude an agreement is 992 thousand roubles.

The construction of the architectural monument dates to 1908. This two-story wooden house is part of the former estate of the bourgeois Marya Timofeevna Grigorieva.

The house is of historical value in connection with an event that took place 10 years later. Here in 1918 the Grand Duke Nikolai Mikhailovich lived in exile. Together with the adjutant, servant and cook, he occupied two rooms with a separate kitchen and a small corridor. In one of the letters, the Grand Duke pointed out that the family who sheltered them were "modest, hospitable and well-minded people, they are also victims of the Bolsheviks."

The building housed living quarters. The house is now in disrepair.



From October 25 to November 12, 2021, the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society (IOPS) together with the Rudomino All-Russian State Library of Foreign Literature, the Oldenburg-Russian Society (Germany) and the ANO Country of Resurrection hold an exhibition dedicated to the history of the "Russian" branches of the House of Oldenburg.

The exhibition is timed to coincide with the 140th anniversary of the death of an outstanding Russian statesman, Prince Peter Georgievich of Oldenburg (1812-1881), a representative of the Russian Imperial House, the grandson of Emperor Paul I, founder of the Russian branch of the Oldenburg, who showed himself in the field of charity and enlightenment.

The exhibition will feature photographs and documents from the funds of the State Archives of the Russian Federation, the Central State Archives of the city of Moscow, the St. Petersburg Society "Friends of the House of Oldenburg", the Historical and Cultural Centre "Palace Complex of the Oldenburg" and the Library of Foreign Literature.

The exposition also includes sections talking about the Nun Anastasia of Kiev, in the world of Grand Duchess Alexandra Petrovna, nee Princess of Oldenburg, the Russian statesman Prince Alexander Petrovich of Oldenburg (1844-1932), an honorary member of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society and other representatives of the Oldenburg dynasty.

The event is aimed at strengthening cultural and humanitarian ties between Russia and Germany.

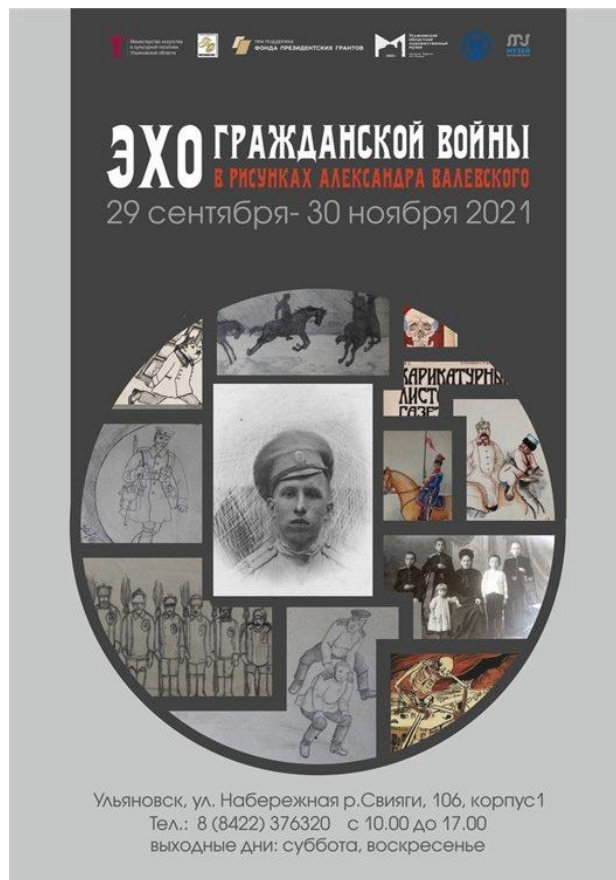




On September 29, 2021, a thematic exhibition "The Echo of the Civil War in the Drawings of Alexander Valevsky" opened in Ulyanovsk. The exposition presents unique photographic documents from the State Archives of the Russian Federation, the Russian State Archive of Film and Photo Documents and the archives of the Ulyanovsk Region. The event is timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

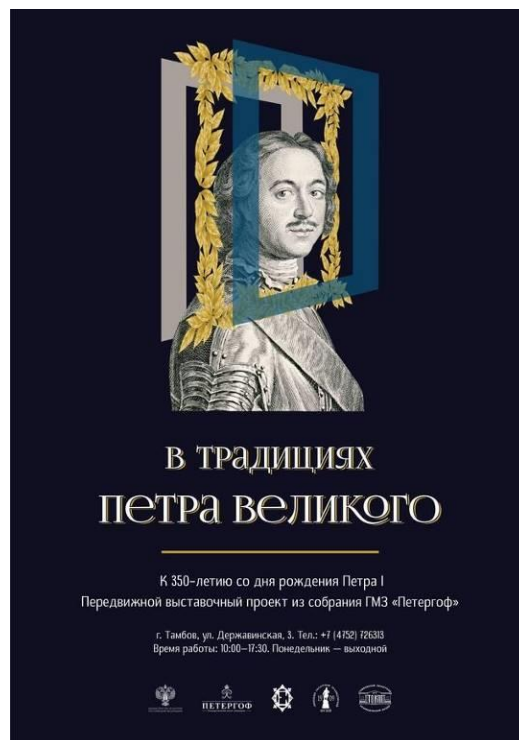
The author of the works is a graduate of the Simbirsk Cadet Corps, a participant in the First World War and the Civil War; at various times he was an officer of the 1st Simbirsk Instructor Officer Battalion, Colonel Kappel, the staff captain of the 13th Siberian Kolchak Division and the company commander of the 235th Nevelsk Regiment of the Red Army. He fought on the side of the Reds and on the side of the Whites. Drawings by Alexander Valevsky were created from 1921 to 1937. On them you can see the participants of the Civil War, standing on different sides of the barricades.

The project was implemented thanks to the support of the Presidential Grants Fund. Kirill Tsyplenkov, a leading specialist of the Russian State Library of Arts, author of books on the history of military clothing, and historians of the Russian Knights Foundation acted as a consultant on military uniforms in the drawings of Alexander Valevsky. The exposition will run until November 30.



On October 11, the Tambov Regional Museum of Local Lore will open a mobile project "In the Traditions of Peter the Great", prepared by the Peterhof State Museum-Reserve as part of the program of educational events dedicated to the 350th anniversary of the birth of Peter I. "In the Traditions of Peter the Great" is a tribute to the deeds of the ruler who changed the course of Russian history. Peter I was a passionate supporter of everything innovative, with special interest in inventions. New items were brought into the country by him personally, first they were tested by the royal family and at court, and then, gradually, they became widespread. The reforms launched by Peter affected all spheres of life: from state policy to the smallest details of everyday life. And the exhibition is dedicated to such understandable, tangible and commensurable things as a meal and receiving guests.

The last point of the exhibition route Tambov was no coincidence. This is another key city of Peter's geography. The Tambov region played an important role in the growth and development of an actively modernizing country. The wealth of the region was widely used for strategic needs - defence and the creation of industry. Here, local peasants harvested timber, which was then floated to the south, to Azov, where a fleet was built from the Tambov forest.



The exposition includes more than 150 exhibits of the 17th - first half of the 18th centuries from the collection of the museum-reserve. Peterhof is a favourite seaside residence, the embodiment of the first Russian Emperor's dream of Versailles on the Baltic coast - a place of memory of his deeds preserved by descendants for centuries. The works of art and memorial items selected for exhibiting very accurately illustrate the main themes of the exhibition: "Encirclement of Peter I", "Travel to Holland", "Peterhof cuisine" and "Assemblies". The best paintings, original books, samples of Chinese porcelain, carved furniture, as well as kitchen utensils and cutlery are true witnesses of Peter the Great's stay in Peterhof, which became one of the centres of attraction for social events of that era.



From October 19 to November 12 in the Oryol Regional Library there is an exhibition of Peter I - the first Russian Emperor. It is dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Russian Empire - one of the most powerful state in world history.

On November 2, 1721, Peter I ended the Northern War with Sweden. The peace treaty concluded in the city of Nystadt put an end to the hostilities that had lasted for more than 20 years. After a series of glorious victories of Russian weapons, the time has come to reconsider the position of the Russian state in Europe. In the Holy Trinity Cathedral in St. Petersburg, after the festive liturgy, Chancellor G.I. Golovkin appealed to the Sovereign on behalf of the Senate and Synod to accept the titles of "Father of the Fatherland" and "Emperor of All Russia". Peter I assumed the imperial title, and the Russian kingdom was officially called the Russian Empire. The victory over the Swedes made Russia one of the largest European states. The new status was recognized by Denmark, Holland, Prussia, Sweden.

The exposition includes the following magazines: *Rodina*, *Voprosy Istorii*, *New and Contemporary History*, *Vestnik MU Ekonomika*, etc., dedicated to the proclamation of the Russian Empire and the life path of the first Russian Emperor, Peter the Great. The state existed for about two hundred years, until February 1917, and this was two centuries of the grandiose geopolitical and cultural take-off of our country.



In 2022, large-scale festive events are planned in Azov, Taganrog and the village of Starocherkasskaya, timed to coincide with the 350th anniversary of the birth of Peter the Great, several of them were included in the federal plan.

Thus, the festival of military-historical clubs "The Siege of Azov", which in connection with the anniversary will be dedicated to the events of 1696, will be held on the territory of the historical monument of the Peter's era - the ramparts of the Azov fortress.

The scientific-practical conference "Peter's Assembly in Troitsk on Tagan-Rog" and the fireworks festival "The First Fireworks of Peter I" in honour of the fireworks given by decree of Peter I after the capture of the Azov fortress in 1696 will take place. First Deputy Governor of the Rostov Region Igor Guskov spoke about this at a video conference on the preparation and holding of the 350th anniversary of the birth of Peter I. The event was chaired by Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Tatyana Golikova.

In total, more than 12 million roubles are provided for holding major events in the regional budget, - said Igor Guskov. - Municipalities of the region have developed additional plans, including 425 events, for which 1.7 million roubles are provided in local budgets.

In addition, in the year of the 350th anniversary of the first Russian Emperor, exhibitions will be opened in state museums: "Azov. Peter. Victoria!" (Azov Museum-Reserve), "Peter I and His Epoch" (Taganrog Museum-Reserve). The main exposition of the Starocherkassk Museum-Reserve will be supplemented by a section dedicated to Peter I and the Don Cossacks.

According to the recommendations of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, a single day for celebrating the "Day of Peter I" has been determined - June 9.





On October 19, 2021, an exact copy of the bust of Catherine the Great from the Aninsky Buddhist Datsan was presented to the State Hermitage. The reign of Empress Catherine II was marked by an important event in the history of Buddhism, which was officially recognized as one of the state religions of Russia. In 1764, the Empress established the post of Bandido Khambo Lama (Pandito Khambo Lama), who was the head of the Buddhist Church of Transbaikalia and Eastern Siberia. In 1766, the Buryat clergy proclaimed Catherine II the embodiment of White Tara on Earth. On the altar of one of the main temples of one of the oldest monasteries in Buryatia - Aninsky Datsan - a marble bust of the Empress was installed, which she presented to the deputies who arrived in St. Petersburg in 1764. In the 1930s, the Datsan was destroyed, and the sculpture was lost.

At the meeting of the World Club of Petersburgers in the Hermitage on August 22, 2019, dedicated to the 255th anniversary of the official recognition of Buddhism in Russia, a bronze bust of Empress Catherine II, recreated by architect V. B. Bukhaev and sculptor M. N. Makushkin, was presented.

From May 26 to July 26, 2021, the National Museum of the Republic of Buryatia in Ulan-Ude hosted the exhibition "Catherine the Great", which featured four exhibits from the collection of the State Hermitage. The Aninsky Datsan presented a bronze bust of Catherine II for the exhibition.

On the initiative of Legsok Darizhapov, Shirete Lama of the Aninsky Datsan "Gandan Shadduvling", V.B. Bukhaev and M.N. Makushkin created an exact copy of this bust, which was presented as a gift to the Hermitage.



"Kruzenshtern. Around the world" – is an international exhibition at the State Historical Museum dedicated to Ivan Feodorovich Kruzenshtern - a navigator, scientist, one of the founders of the Russian Geographical Society, a man who made the first Russian voyage around the world.

The exposition consists of memorial items and relics from the collection of museums, archives and libraries of Russia, Germany and Estonia. Many items are presented in multimedia format.

"The scale of the personality of Ivan Feodorovich Kruzenshtern is amazing - he was a military man, scientist, teacher. His research became a significant step in solving the most important geographical and oceanographic issues of the 19th century. On the 250th anniversary of the birth of Ivan Feodorovich, the Historical Museum together with 15 participants from Russia and Europe has prepared a large exhibition project, where visitors will discover the brightest moments of the life and work of one of the most famous seafarers," says director Alexei Levykin.

One of the sections of the exhibition contains memorial items of Ivan Feodorovich Kruzenshtern. Among them, a collection of books from the personal collection of Kruzenshtern and the ship's library of the sloop "Nadezhda", as well as atlases-convolutes with pencil marks of the navigator, are of particular interest.

The central part of the exhibition is occupied by the monuments of the first Russian round-the-world expedition. The exposition presents more than twenty items of the ethnographic collection of participants in the circumnavigation of the peoples of Russian America. Some of the key exhibits in the section are Atlas of Maps and Drawings for Traveling Around the World in 1803–1806 on Captain I.F. Kruzenshtern's 16-gun sloop Nadezhda and Atlas of the South Sea. A separate place is occupied by exhibits associated with a visit to Japan: ambassadorial gifts to the Emperor of Japan - a bone vase and a saber in a scabbard, the book "A Guide to the Knowledge of the Japanese Language, composed

by Nikolai Rezanov" and the famous manuscript "Kankai Ibun" containing records of interrogations of Japanese sailors caught in Russian Empire as a result of a shipwreck and returned to Japan.



Ivan Feodorovich was actively involved in educational and research activities. He helped to organize a round-the-world expedition and the expedition of F. F. Bellingshausen and M. P. Lazarev. Antarctica was discovered as the result of these expeditions. As director of the Naval Cadet Corps, he made several significant reforms and significantly improved the quality of education at the educational institution.

The architectural design of the exhibition reflects the multifaceted heritage of the admiral. As the artist of the exhibition Yulia Napolova notes: "The perimeter exposition is built as a dialogue between the human genius and the sea, where the personality of Ivan Kruzenshtern is revealed, combining German solidity and Russian adventurism. Subdued colours and delicate finishes set off a wealth of treasures from all over the world."

On the second tier of the exposition, there are two interactive children's zones "Sailors" and "Officers", where thematic master classes on knitting and navigation will be held, as well as museum classes about life on a ship and food for participants in a round-the-world voyage.



The Museum of the Romanov dynasty will be opened in the Volokolamsk urban district by the end of the year, the press service of the municipality administration reports.

"By the end of the year, a museum of the Romanov dynasty will appear in the Volokolamsk district. (...) The museum will be in the building of a school constructed in 1916 in memory of the hero of the Great War, Prince of the Imperial Blood Oleg Konstantinovich, the fourth son of the Grand Duke Romanov," in the message.

The administration noted that it is planned to preserve the original historical appearance of the building. The exterior work has already been completed, heating systems and new windows have been installed. It remains to do the interior decoration and landscaping.

The museum will be dedicated to the activities of the Romanov family: assistance to residents of the village of Ostashevo, charity, and development of the village.



"Book for Daily Reading" by Maria Feodorovna

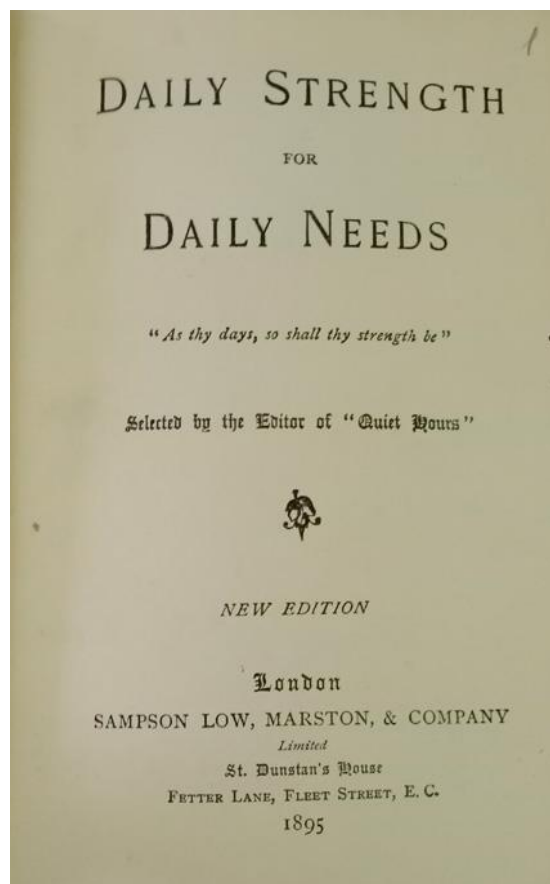
October 4, 2021 - In the restoration workshops of the Russian State Library (RSL), the restoration of the Book for Daily Reading, donated to Empress Maria Feodorovna by her mother, Queen Louise of Denmark, was completed. The book contains the dedication of the Danish Queen and the notes of Maria Feodorovna. The rarity was acquired several years ago in Paris for the State Archives of the Russian Federation at the auction of the Olivier Coutau-Begarie auction house, which specializes in Russian artifacts. The case was included in the fund 1841 "Collection of the Yusupov-Romanovs" (Op. 1. D. 18).

In 2015, the book, along with other 172 documents and objects that belonged to the Prince and Princess Yusupov, was presented at the exposition "History Returned. Documents on the history of the Russian emigration. Exhibition of new acquisitions" in the Exhibition Hall of the Federal Archives. The book of memorial value and historical interest was in a deplorable state and needed restoration. At the request of the State Archive of the Russian Federation, it was carried out by specialists from the RSL, headed by the head of the department, Alexander Soshnin, and the deputy head of the department, Alexei Novikov. The restoration work was paid by the Royal Danish Embassy in Moscow.

Originally, the small-format book *Daily Strength for Daily Needs*, published in Old English in London in 1895, belonged to Queen Louise of Denmark (entirely to Wilhelmina Frederick Caroline Augusta Julia Hesse-Kassel-Rumpenheim, 1817-1898), wife of the Danish King Christian IX, grandmother of Emperor Nicholas II and King George V of Great Britain, and a close relative of some other European Monarchs, among whom Louise was known as the "mother-in-law of Europe".

The book is a collection of short excerpts from biblical texts and literary works, as well as quotes from famous writers and thinkers, such as Johann Wolfgang Goethe, John Ruskin, St. Augustine, Francis de Sales, William Wordsworth, Thomas Kempisky, Epictetus, Pythagoras and many others. Composed by Mary Wilder Tileston and first published in 1885, this small volume gained immense popularity in Europe, and the Queen Louise sent its third edition to her daughter in St. Petersburg.

The content of the book fully corresponded to the worldview of Queen Louise. Her family in Denmark was considered a model of piety, and she herself consistently



adhered to many of the postulates collected in the book, and just as firmly instructed her children in this regard.

One of the daughters of Louise and King Christian IX of Denmark - Empress of Russia Maria Feodorovna (at birth Princess Maria Sophia Frederica Dagmar, 1847 - 1928) was the wife of Emperor Alexander III and mother of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II. The marriage with the Russian Tsar was happy and successful; for almost thirty years of life together, the couple maintained a sincere affection for each other. Maria Feodorovna enjoyed not only love, but also great respect of her husband. The natural mind and political intuition of his wife greatly helped Alexander III to understand better the people around him.



Louise, and later her daughter, was very impressed by the kind of spiritual guidance contained in the collection. It was believed that reading certain passages every day throughout the year helped to solve a problem. The book indicated what and how to pray on days when a person feels spiritually or physically empty, or just busy with disturbing thoughts. Each day was dedicated to one topic and had to begin with the reading of one or two verses from scripture. "From the most inspiring words of many powerful Christians, you will learn how to live every day without worries, overcome today's trials, find peace and joy, receive clear guidance from God, deal with disappointment and temptation, you will gain the wisdom and strength to live a godly life.", - said in the preface of the publication.

"The higher our position, the more polite we are obliged to behave, otherwise people will not forgive us that we are above them," the Queen Mother pointed out in a letter to her daughter. This and other simple maxims (however, as history shows, they were by no means familiar to many royal persons of that time) almost permeated many pages of the book donated. Proverbs,

quote of scientists and other great and famous people, just worldly wisdom and aphorisms, were presented almost as a set of advice for all occasions. And the aging Queen Louise knew that this advice met the views of the crowned addressee, they are in demand.

Maria, cheerful, enjoyed considerable influence and sympathy in court circles and the capital's society, patronized art, headed the Russian Red Cross Society and several charitable institutions. She rarely intervened in big politics, but at decisive moments she never hid her opinion from her son. So, when in 1915 Nicholas II decided to become the head of the army, Maria Feodorovna for about two hours persuaded him to change his decision for about two hours. According to the testimony of the closest friend of the Emperor's wife, Anna Vyrubova, the Sovereign said that the conversation with his mother was even more difficult than with the ministers, who also opposed Nicholas' II decision to become supreme commander-in-chief, and that they parted without understanding each other. She sharply opposed the negative influence of Rasputin on the Imperial Family and state affairs. The Empress Mother, according to some recollections, repeatedly complained that "it is terrible for her to really see that her son is destroying everything, to understand this and not be able to do anything" ... The Empress's traits - a clear mind, strong will, dignity and modesty, consistency and adherence to principles - appear invisibly and quite definitely when one gets acquainted with the contents of the "Book for Daily Reading" presented by Queen Louise.

Thanks to the restoration carried out, The Book for Daily Reading, which once belonged to one of the most beautiful and intelligent women of the Romanov family, the book that witnessed her brilliant and tragic fate is now available to researchers.

As for the "Daily Strength for Daily Needs", it has been translated into many languages over the decades, has gone through dozens of editions and is still popular in Europe and America.

The collection "Russia and the independence of Finland 1899 - 1920" was published



October 5, 2021 - A collection of documents, consisting of three volumes, was prepared by Russian archivists together with Finnish colleagues from the National Archives of Finland and is timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Russia and Finland. The collection contains 1358 documents from the State Archives of the Russian Federation, RGIA, RGASPI, RGAE, RGAVMF, RGVA, from the archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - AVPRI and AVP RF, the Archive of the President of the Russian Federation and the National Archives of Finland.

For the first time, the collection of documents presents in detail the most dramatic period of their relationship: from the limitation of autonomy in 1899, through an attempt to turn Finland into a powerless province and to deprive the Seim and the Senate of independence in 1908, through a period of military confrontation in 1918-1919 - to a peace treaty and the establishment of permanent diplomatic relations in 1920.

It contains 130 photographic documents, most from the collections of Finnish museums. The chronological framework

of each volume is determined by the dynamics of the formation of Finland's independence.

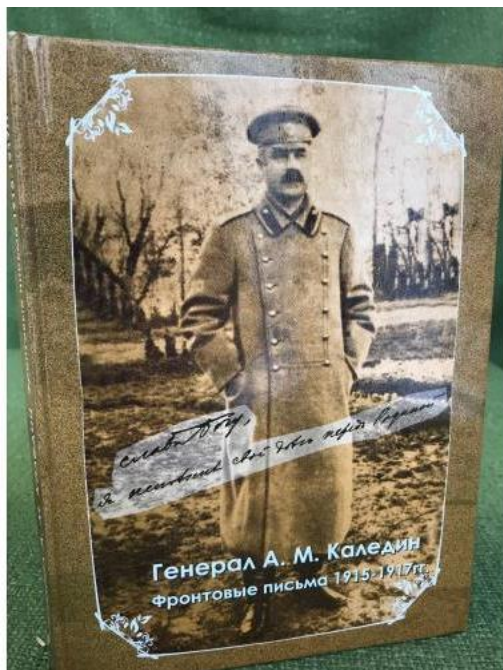
The first volume "From Autonomy to Confrontation" contains documents for January 1899 - May 1908.

The second volume of the collection of documents "The Dynamics of Confrontation: 1908 -

1917" reveals plots that are important for understanding the events of 1917 and the following years.

The third volume "From Confrontation to Peace. 1917-1920" covers the policy of the Provisional Government of Russia from February to October 1917, the policy of the Council of People's Commissars of Soviet Russia from October 1917 to December 1920 in the field of regulation of the political status of Finland and legal relations with it.

Second edition of letters collection of General Kaledin



October 13, 2021 Novocherkassk hosted a presentation of the second edition of the book "General A.M. Kaledin. Letters from the Front 1915 - 1917". It was timed to coincide with the 160th anniversary of the birth of the first democratically elected Don chieftain in the 20th century. The book contains materials from the funds of the State Archives of the Russian Federation and the State Archives of the Rostov Region, the Novocherkassk Museum of the History of the Don Cossacks and the Rostov Regional Museum of Local Lore.

Alexey Kaledin was a famous person not only for Don, but for the whole country. Hero of the First World War, Knight of St. George, military leader, seriously wounded and re-commissioned, at one time he was an idol for many patriots of Russia.

The first edition of the book was published in 2011 and became an important event in the historiography of the First World War.

The texts of the general's front-line letters to his wife Maria Petrovna were deciphered from the originals. In total, 92 letters have survived, which cover the period from September 1, 1915, to March 13, 1917. A huge research work was carried out to establish the personalities found in letters, according to the mentioned events and geographical names.

The book characterizes the personality of General Alexei Kaledin, illuminates his life path and tragic finale as the first democratically elected Don chieftain.

The updated book was presented by the famous historian, head of the department of the Ataman Palace Museum of the Museum of the History of the Don Cossacks Svetlana Chibisova. She spoke about the work done and the fate of the Cossack general, and previously unknown facts of his biography.



Two in the whole the world. Private correspondence of Nicholas II and Alexandra

They met when Nicky, the future Emperor of Russia Nicholas II, was 16, and Alix, the Princess of Hesse, who later became his wife, was only 12. Sympathy appeared instantly.

In his diary, the Tsarevich wrote that he really liked the little Princess. With each new meeting, the future Emperor noted how prettier Alix had become. Their relationship was the object of envy: not often marriages at such a high level are made for love. Nicholas and Alexandra were a happy exception.

Crowned spouses all their lives tried not to part. And when the separation did happen, they wrote letters to each other every day, telling about their feelings and about their concerns.

After the revolution, the correspondence fell into the archives and remained classified for a long time. Now the letters of Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna have become public knowledge. They can be used to trace the history of their relationship, family and Russia, and at the same time receive lessons of tenderness, kindness and self-sacrifice.

From the letters, the reader learns about the difficulties that arose on the life path of the crowned spouses, how difficult it was for Alix to change the Lutheran faith to Orthodoxy, what joy the appearance of the long-awaited heir became in the family, how the spouses experienced the hardships of the First World War and, of course, the last days in Ipatiev house in Yekaterinburg.

Private letters of Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna are supplemented with rare photographs.

Publishing House "Komsomolskaya Pravda", Moscow. Hard cover. Pages: 132. ISBN: 978-5-4470-0552-8

Under the Hammer...

Romanov related items in Auctions



Auction house of Yegorovs, Moscow, Russia, October 25

Emperor Nicholas II awards St. George Cross' to Wounded soldiers

Sergey Timofeevich Silkiy, 1914. Paper, Italian pencil, watercolour. Size 43,5 x 62 cm. In the lower left corner of the artist's signature and the date. It is framed.



Sergey T. Silkiy (1870 -?) received the title of the artist for the painting "The Arrest of Metropolitan Philip". Author of posters and postcards from the First World War. He worked in the Frolovs' mosaic workshop. He created the famous panel in the house of the Duke of Leuchtenberg "The Image of the Resurrection of Christ" (1909). Delegate of the fine arts department of the People's Commissariat for Education. Emissary of the Museum Department (1919). The artist's work is kept in the State Russian Museum.

Estimated price: 72,000 - 90,000 Roubles

Cazo, Paris, France, October 26

Silver gelatin photo print showing Emperor Nicholas II and Tsarevich Alexei surrounded by his retinue. 88 x 128 mm.

Start price: € 150



**Imperia, Moscow, Russia,
October 28**

Badge "In memory of the 300th anniversary of the House of Romanov. 1613-1913." Unknown workshop, Moscow? 1913 Copper-nickel alloy. Weight 5.79 g. Size 36x22 mm.

Estimated price: 9,000 - 10,000
Roubles



Table medal "In commemoration of the opening of the Suramsky tunnel. 1890". Signed by the medalist above the edge on the right "L. Shteinman". Copper, 401.70 g. Diameter 97 mm.
Estimated price: 9,000 - 10,000 Roubles



Badge "In memory of the visit to Sweden of Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of All Russia. 1909". Unknown workshop. Russia? 1909 Silver, gilding, enamel. Weight, 11.38 g. Size 35x28 mm.
Estimated price: 9,000 - 10,000 Roubles



Lost cache of £1 m Faberge heirlooms

Lost cache of £1m Faberge heirlooms which were brought to Britain by a spy during the Russian Revolution are discovered wrapped in tissue in a museum after being hidden for almost 90 years
Collection of Faberge items found at Brighton's Royal Pavilion and Museum

26 October 2021. By WILLIAM COLE FOR MAILONLINE

A lost collection of Faberge heirlooms has been discovered in a museum basement where they had been hidden for almost 90 years.

The items were found covered in dirt and dust, but in good condition during a routine trip through the storerooms of the Royal Pavilion and Museums in Brighton.

Dating to the turn of the last century, the previously unrecorded antiques are believed to be worth over £1 million. They are now set to go on a new public display.

The items include two jewel-encrusted photo frames made by the prestigious Russian jewellery house.



Both frames contain contemporary photos of two women.

While their identities remain something of a mystery, it is thought one of them may be Princess Alice of Battenberg, Queen Victoria's great-granddaughter and mother of Prince Philip.

Also included in the small collection are two gum pots and a stamp damper.

The five Faberge items may have been brought back to Britain by Henry Vere Benett, who worked for the British Intelligence Services at St Petersburg during the 1917 Russian Revolution.

He was known to have searched in local jewellers for things to send back to his stepmother, Lady Ellen Thomas-Stanford who lived at Preston Manor in Brighton.



© ZacharyCulpin/BNPS



© ZacharyCulpin/BNPS

Dating to the turn of the last century, the previously unrecorded antiques are believed to be worth over £1 million. The items include two jewel-encrusted photo frames made by the prestigious Russian jewellery house.

Lady Thomas-Stanford was a wealthy heiress and friend of Princess Beatrice, the daughter of Queen Victoria.

After she died in 1932, Preston Manor and its contents were left to the local authority to become a museum.

The Faberge items were recently discovered by pure luck by the Antiques Roadshow's Geoffrey Munn. He had been carrying out a routine visit to the storerooms of the Royal Pavilion and Museums Trust in Brighton when he walked past a display cabinet of mostly English porcelain.

He saw the corner of the purple enamel Faberge photo frame sticking out of the tissue paper it had been wrapped in.



The items were found covered in dirt and dust but in good condition during a routine trip through the storerooms of the Royal Pavilion and Museums in Brighton

He asked for the cabinet to be opened and unwrapped the tissue paper to reveal the Faberge items covered in years of dust and dirt.

They included the two enamelled silver and gold photo frames, two gum pots and a stamp damper. Mr Munn has carried some research into the items and has been able to trace them back to Lady Ellen of Preston Manor.

He said: 'This is a very exciting discovery not least because it was completely serendipitous.

'I was there researching a Sussex painter and there really was a snowflake's chance of me finding what I did.

'I was walking along in the basement after something completely different and I saw the corner of one of the photo frames sticking out of some tissue paper.



'Because I have spent my whole life working with Faberge things, I simply recognised it and said, 'come on let's lift the tissue paper' and there were the two frames, two gum pots and a stamp damper in blue enamel.

'If the tissue paper had covered it completely, they would still be there now.

'I was thrilled but they were also filthy and covered in tobacco tar and God knows what else that obscured their brilliance.

'Faberge is a very famous name now but it hasn't always been and was completely out of fashion in the 1920s and 30s.'

On the back of the photo frames Mr Munn found stuck on inventory numbers written in the same hand as inventory numbers for items at Preston Manor.

The hallmarks on them also told him the frames were made between 1896 to 1906.

The photographs of the two women sitters were contemporary to this time.

Princess Alice of Battenberg would have been aged in her late teens and the woman in the picture thought to be of her is wearing a type of pearl earrings that she was known to have had.

She was connected to the Russian Royal Family who were overthrown in the Russian Revolution on 1917.

Mr Munn has no idea who the second woman in the photograph is and is appealing for the public's help to find out.

He added: 'The photos haven't been seen by the public since they were left by Lady Ellen.

'How she got them is the great enigma and it remains so, but she was certainly in the orbit of Royal Family as Queen Victoria's daughters stayed as weekend guests with her.

'And there has always been a very strong royal connection with Faberge, after all his main clientele was the Russian Royal Family and to an extent the British Royal Family.'

The items will be on display at the Brighton Museum & Art Gallery from November 2 to June 2022.

Clarke Auction Gallery, NY, USA, November 7

A Faberge T-Rex - Carved Nephrite Dinosaur with Diamond Eyes

A handsomely carved nephrite jade figure of a Tyrannosaurus Rex dinosaur with rose cut diamond eyes. Diamonds measure approx. 1.0mm each.

Attribution of Faberge provided by Geoffrey Munn, author of "Wartski The First 150 Years" which illustrates this Faberge dinosaur twice.

Munn stated, "You may be interested to know that I am virtually certain this is a long lost, extremely rare, and potentially valuable carving by Faberge! As you will see it is illustrated in my book "Wartski The First 150 Years" but the great sadness is that someone has broken off the front two feet and it has been polished out to disguise the problem. I have a faint memory of this happening and so I'm doubly sure this is indeed a wonderful piece of Faberge. There are only two or three pre-historic animal studies by Faberge and so it makes a great story....".

Total approx. weight of dinosaur is 340.8 grams (gross). From the estate of a world traveler and gemologist. Dimensions: dinosaur measures approx. 5.5" w x 4" h.

Good, with light surface scratches and minor dings/dents. Repair to one leg and one toe/claw. Arms missing - with polished surface where they were once located.

Estimate \$800-\$1,200



Top, an old photo of the T-Rex with arms, and below the present state without arms.



A Carved French Bulldog

Carved French bulldog with 18kt yellow gold collar suspending a bell, and round full cut diamond eyes. Etched mark to underside of one foot. Diamonds measure approx. 1.5mm each. Collar is stamped "750".

Total approx. weight of figurine is 273.3 grams (gross). From the estate of a world traveler and gemologist. Dimensions: 1.75" w x 3" d x 4" h. With light surface scratches and minor dings/dents.

Could it be a model of Grand Duchess Tatiana Nikolaevna's dog Ortipo?

Estimate \$800-\$1,200

